

OTHER DRUG USE

Students were asked about the use of 11 types of drugs ranging from marijuana and cocaine to steroids. They were asked both if they had ever used the various drugs, and if they had, their frequency of use. The survey also included questions about how available students thought drugs were and how risky they perceived drug use to be.

Lifetime Prevalence of Any Drug Use

Lifetime prevalence rates indicate the proportion of students who have tried drugs at least once in their lives. *Idaho students continued to report lower lifetime prevalence rates than the national average.* For example, whereas 51.1 percent of high school seniors nationwide reported having used drugs at least once in their lifetime, only 35.4 percent of seniors in Idaho reported having used drugs (Table D1).

Table D1
Percentage of Students Who Have Ever Used Any Drug,
Idaho and Nationwide, 1996-2004

Grade	1996		1998		2000		2002		2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	
Grade 6	--	7.6	--	5.6	--	5.7	--	7.0	--	9.4	+1.8
Grade 8	31.2	25.5	29.0	18.0	26.8	17.3	24.5	18.5	21.5	18.6	-6.9
Grade 10	45.4	--	44.9	36.7	45.6	28.1	44.6	34.9	39.8	32.7	-4.0
Grade 12	50.8	37.6	54.1	36.2	54.0	35.3	53.0	37.2	51.1	35.4	-2.2

Figure D1 illustrates this information for eighth-, 10th-, and 12th-grade students, the only grades for whom there are multiple years of Idaho data as well as national comparison data available.

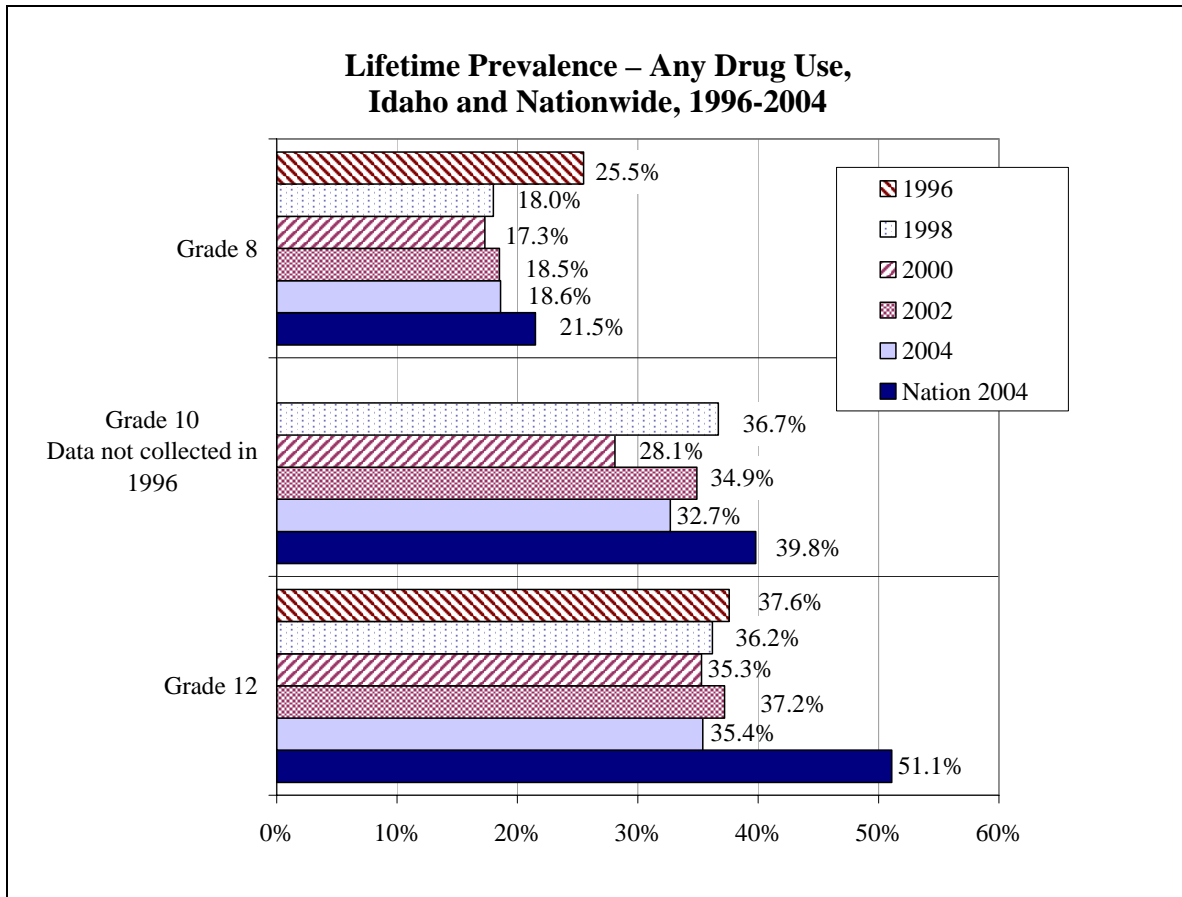


Figure D1

Table D2 examines only the Idaho data, with consideration for the margin of error. Compared to 1996 survey results, prevalence rates of eighth-grade students in Idaho appear to have undergone a genuine decrease. When comparing the 2004 results to that of 1996, the prevalence rates of sixth- and 12th-grade students remained stable. The prevalence rate of 10th-grade students showed a decrease over that reported in 2002; however, when taking into account the margin of error, the rate was very similar to that of 1998.

Table D2
Lifetime Prevalence of Any Drug Use, 1996-2004

Grade	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	7.6	± 0.9	5.6	± 0.8	5.7	± 1.3	7.0	± 1.2	9.4	± 1.2	+1.8
Grade 8	25.5	± 1.9	18.0	± 2.4	17.3	± 5.1	18.5	± 2.7	18.6	± 1.3	-6.9
Grade 10	--	--	36.7	± 5.3	28.1	± 3.3	34.9	± 4.5	32.7	± 2.6	-4.0
Grade 12	37.6	± 3.3	36.2	± 4.5	35.3	± 7.1	37.2	± 3.3	35.4	± 2.2	-2.2

Lifetime Prevalence of Any Drug Use by Ethnicity

Figure D2 illustrates the lifetime prevalence of any drug use by grade and ethnicity (as well as the actual number of students reporting at each level). Overall, the use of drug increased by grade, except for reported decreases African American, Native American, and Hispanic students in grade 12. By the 12th grade, 43.4 percent of Native Americans had tried drugs. Hispanics (37.9 percent) and African Americans (55.2 percent) reported similar lifetime prevalence rates of drug use, and 34.6 percent of Caucasians had tried drugs by 12th grade. Asians in the 12th grade had the lowest lifetime prevalence of any drug use (34.4 percent). Since Caucasians comprised of the majority of the sample (80.7 percent), caution should be used in the interpretation of the data. The fact that the sampling of students reflects the population pattern speaks to the validity of the survey. But because of the small number of minority students in Idaho, just a few students in a particular minority group may be represented in the chart as a big percentage. However, that percentage does not mean that there are huge *numbers* of minority students participating in the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

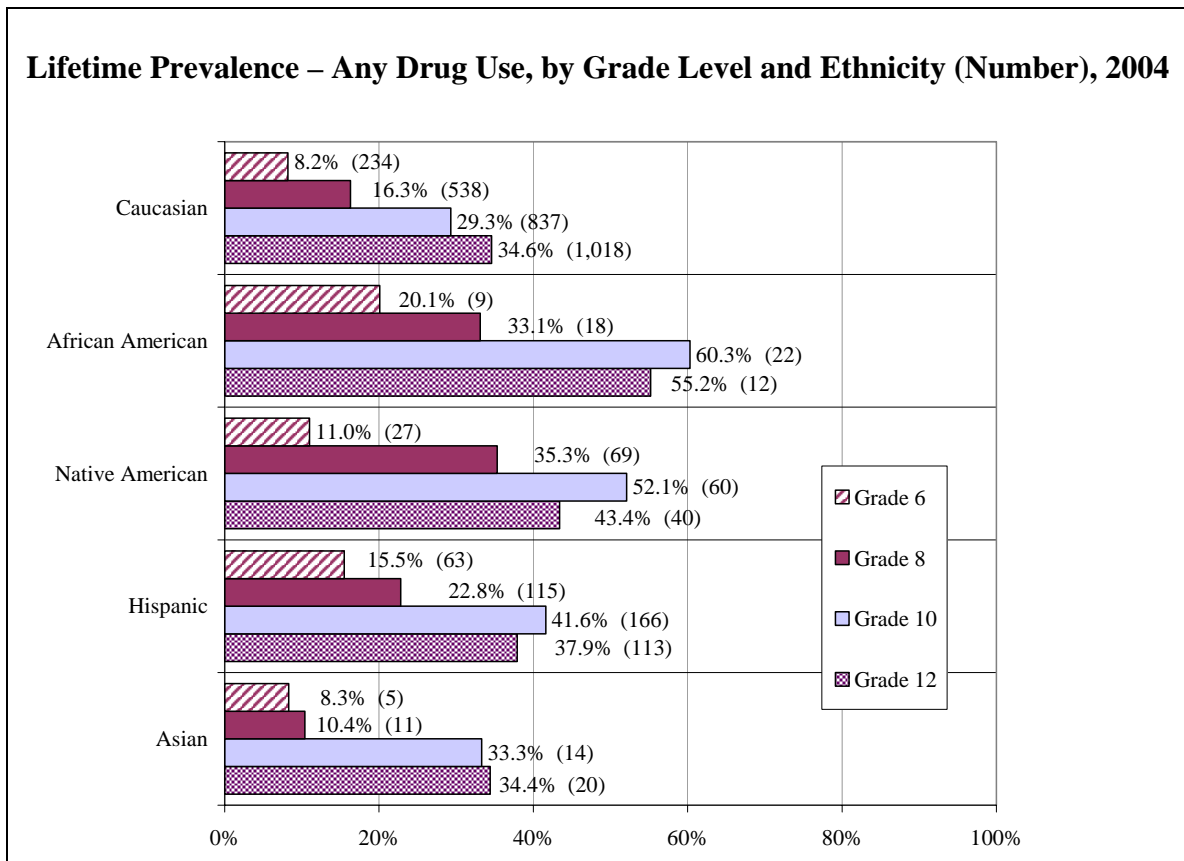


Figure D2

Lifetime Prevalence of Use of Specific Drugs

Lifetime Prevalence of Marijuana

As in previous years, *marijuana was the most commonly used drug* for students in eighth grade and above and accounted for most of the drug use reported on the survey.

Sixth-, eighth-, 10th-, and 12th-grade students reported less marijuana use in 2004 than in 1996, but there was little change from 2000 for eighth- and 10th-grade students. Eighth-grade students reported a small *increase* in use compared to 2002, but they used less than in 1996 (the 0.9 percent margin of error means that this fluctuation may be due to random sampling error). Marijuana use continued to increase during high school years, until, by 12th grade, about three in ten Idaho students (27.1 percent) had tried marijuana.

Table D3
Lifetime Prevalence of Any Marijuana Use, 1996-2004

Grade	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	2.1	± 0.4	1.4	± 0.4	1.6	± 0.7	1.2	± 0.4	1.3	± 0.3	-0.8
Grade 8	14.7	± 1.5	10.3	± 1.4	10.2	± 3.5	8.8	± 1.6	9.3	± 0.9	-5.4
Grade 10	--	--	30.5	± 4.8	23.6	± 3.1	25.5	± 4.8	23.8	± 2.4	-6.7
Grade 12	33.4	± 3.6	30.4	± 4.2	32.0	± 6.8	29.0	± 2.9	27.1	± 2.0	-6.3

As Figure D3 illustrates, student use of marijuana differed significantly from one region of the state to another. Students in Regions V and VI were less likely than other students were to have tried marijuana in their lifetime. Region I reported more use at grade 12 than did other regions. The highest use of marijuana by 10th-graders was reported by Region III, closely followed by Region I.

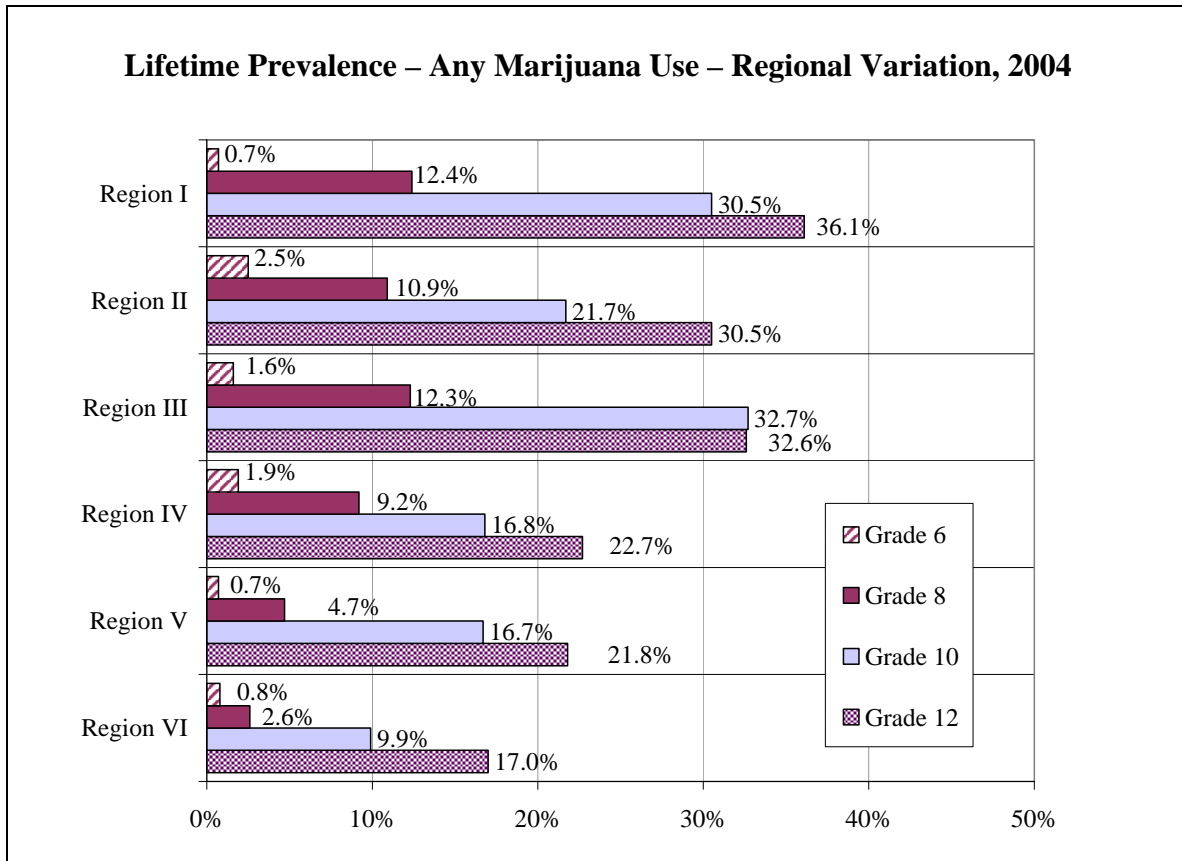


Figure D3

Figure D4 compares the marijuana use of boys and girls in different grades. Boys reported more use of marijuana than did girls in grades eight and twelve, whereas gender differences were not significant in grades six and ten.

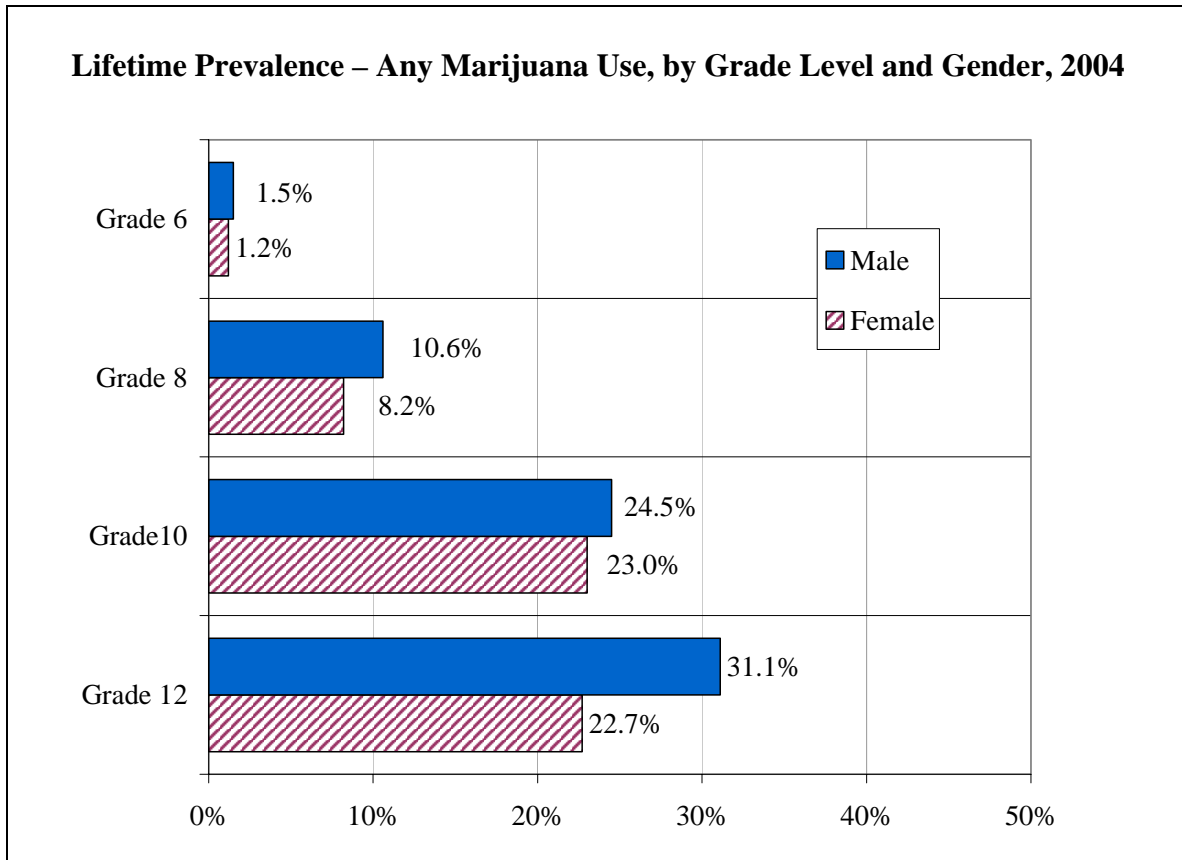


Figure D4

As reflected in Table D4, students in Idaho remained far less likely than their peers nationally to have tried marijuana.

Table D4
Percentage of Students Who Have Ever Used Marijuana,
Idaho and Nationwide, 1996-2004

Grade	1996		1998		2000		2002		2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	
Grade 6	--	2.1	--	1.6	--	1.6	--	1.2	--	1.3	-0.8
Grade 8	23.1	14.7	22.2	10.9	20.3	10.2	19.3	8.8	16.3	9.3	-5.4
Grade 10	39.8	--	39.6	31.2	40.3	23.6	38.7	25.5	35.1	23.8	-6.7
Grade 12	44.9	33.4	49.1	31.2	48.8	32.0	47.8	29.0	45.1	27.1	-6.3

Lifetime Prevalence of Cocaine

About 4.3 percent of Idaho high school seniors reported that they had ever tried cocaine. Eighth- and 12th-grade students reported that they were less likely in 2004 than in 1996 to have tried cocaine. When taking margin of error into account, prevalence among sixth- and 10th-grade students remained about the same as in 1996 (Table D5).

Table D5
Lifetime Prevalence of Any Cocaine Use, 1996-2004

Grade	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	0.5	± 0.2	0.3	± 0.2	0.6	± 0.3	0.3	± 0.2	0.5	± 0.1	--
Grade 8	3.5	± 0.4	2.5	± 0.7	1.6	± 0.3	1.8	± 0.4	1.7	± 0.3	-1.8
Grade 10	--	--	5.1	± 1.4	5.7	± 1.0	4.6	± 1.2	3.5	± 0.3	-1.6
Grade 12	7.2	± 1.3	6.2	± 1.9	7.3	± 2.8	4.4	± 0.8	4.3	± 0.5	-2.9

Boys and girls reported similar levels of cocaine use across all grade levels (Figure D6).

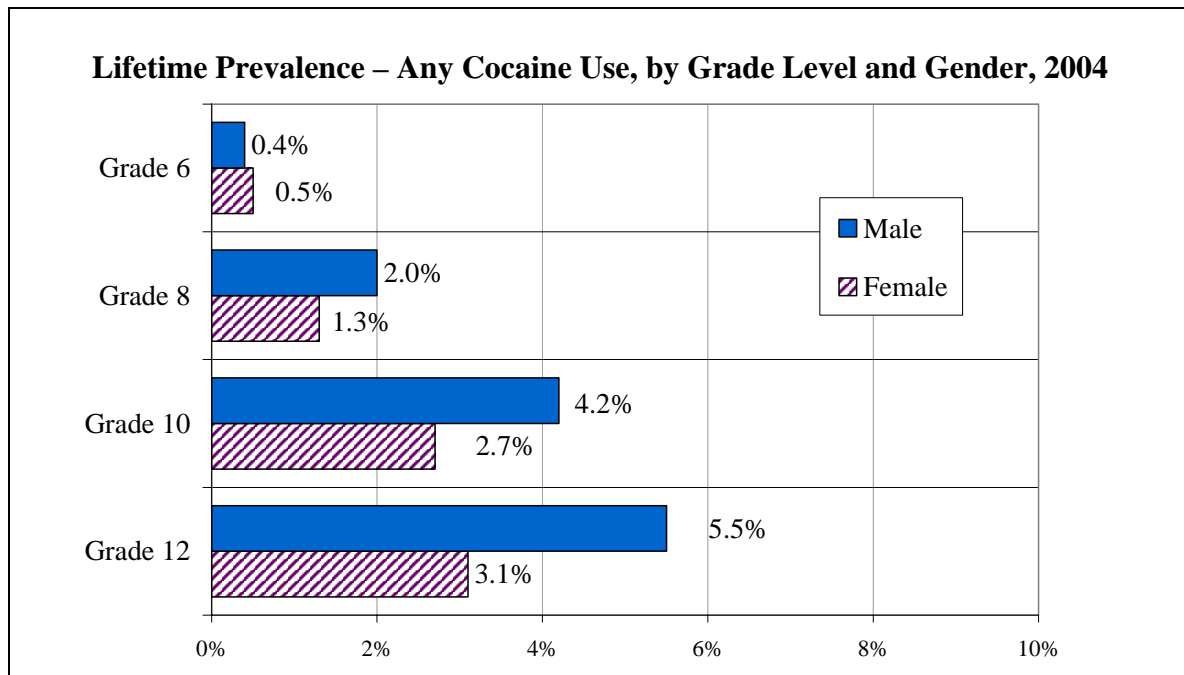


Figure D5

Prevalence of cocaine use among Idaho eighth-graders was well below cocaine use of their peers in other parts of the United States, where, on average, 3.4 percent of students reported some lifetime use. Level of use by 10th- and 12th-graders in Idaho was less than that of students across the nation. Nationally, 10th- and 12th-graders reported that 5.4 percent and 8.1 percent of them, respectively, had tried cocaine (Johnston, et. al., 2002).

Lifetime Prevalence of Opiates

The category “opiates” includes the drugs heroin, codeine, and opium. Use of these drugs was also uncommon among students in Idaho, as Table D6 illustrates.

When compared with 1996, reported use of opiates remained stable for sixth- and 10th-grade students in 2004 and showed decreases in eighth- and 12th-grade students.

Table D6
Lifetime Prevalence of Any Opiate Use, 1996-2004

Grade	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	0.4	± 0.2	0.1	± 0.1	0.6	± 0.5	0.5	± 0.3	0.3	± 0.1	-0.1
Grade 8	2.8	± 0.6	2.0	± 0.5	1.6	± 0.7	1.8	± 0.5	1.6	± 0.2	-0.8
Grade 10	--	--	3.6	± 1.1	5.2	± 1.4	4.9	± 1.1	3.7	± 0.4	+0.1
Grade 12	5.9	± 0.9	5.2	± 1.1	6.5	± 2.6	5.2	± 1.0	4.7	± 0.5	-1.2

The national youth survey, *Monitoring the Future*, reports heroin and other opiate use separately and therefore does not provide comparable statistics.

Boys and girls reported similar levels of opiate use across all grade levels. No significant differences were found between the genders in grade six (Figure D6). More male students used opiates in eighth, 10th, and 12th grades than did female students.

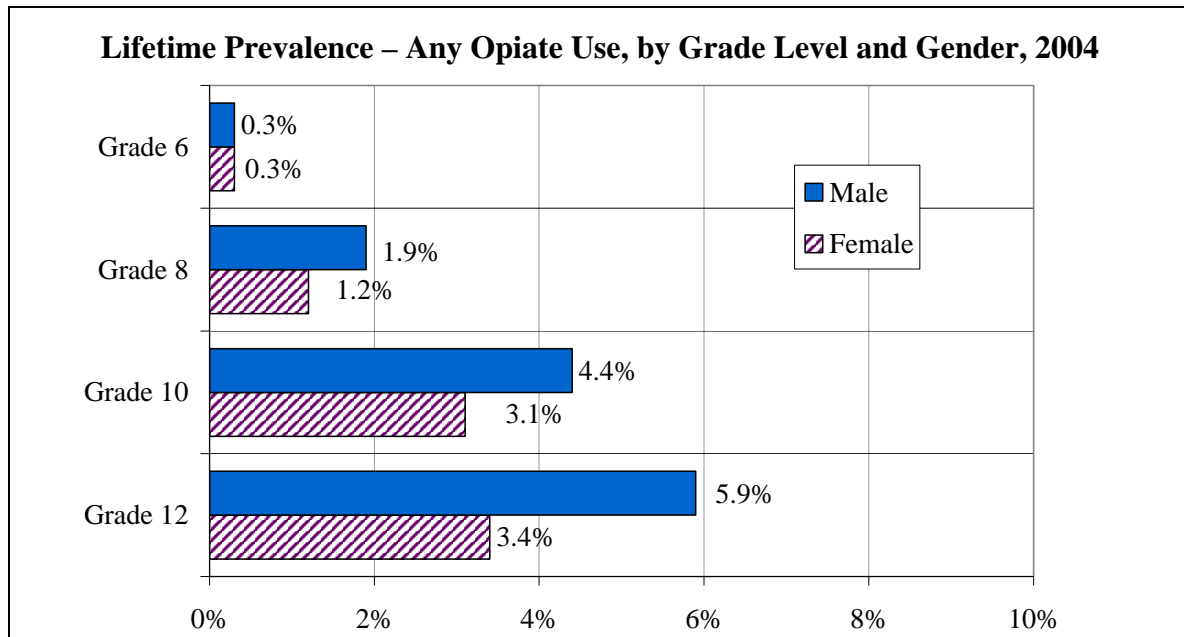


Figure D6

Lifetime Prevalence of Depressants

The Idaho survey in 2004 included, under the category “depressants,” the drugs known as quaaludes, ludes, downers, and reds. These drugs were also uncommon, reportedly used by about 5.3 percent or fewer Idaho students. Compared to earlier years, reported use changed very little (small increases were within the margin of error), except for sixth-graders. When compared to 1996, the lifetime prevalence of any depressant use has declined among Idaho eighth-graders.

Table D7
Lifetime Prevalence of Any Depressant Use, 1996-2004

Grade	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	0.4	± 0.2	0.5	± 0.2	0.6	± 0.3	0.1	± 0.1	0.4	± 0.1	--
Grade 8	4.3	± 0.7	2.5	± 0.8	2.5	± 1.5	2.1	± 0.6	2.6	± 0.3	-1.7
Grade 10	--	--	5.5	± 1.9	5.7	± 0.9	6.1	± 1.5	5.3	± 0.4	-0.2
Grade 12	5.0	± 0.7	4.0	± 0.7	5.2	± 2.2	4.4	± 1.0	5.1	± 0.5	+0.1

Because the Idaho survey combines hypnotic drugs, such as quaaludes, with barbiturate-type drugs, such as “downers,” these responses are not comparable to national data from the *Monitoring the Future* study, which separates the two.

As reflected in Figure D7, boys and girls reported similar levels of depressant use in grades six and twelve. Girls used more depressants than boys used in eighth and 10th grade.

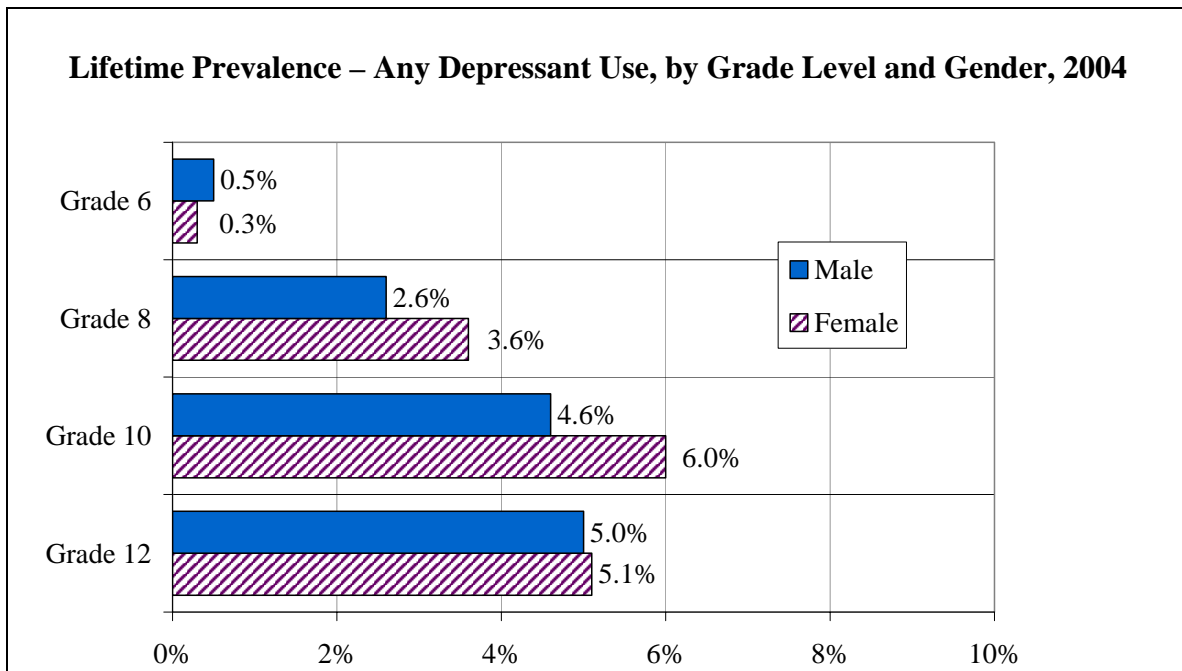


Figure D7

Lifetime Prevalence of Hallucinogens

The survey included the drugs angel dust, LSD, PCP, ‘shrooms, acid, and DMT in the category of hallucinogens. The use of these drugs dropped among sixth-, eighth-, and 12th-graders, compared to reported use in 1996. Table D8 presents these findings.

Table D8
Lifetime Prevalence of Any Hallucinogens Use, 1996-2004

Grade	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	1.1	± 0.2	0.8	± 0.4	0.1	± 0.4	0.4	± 0.2	0.6	± 0.2	-0.5
Grade 8	7.7	± 0.9	4.9	± 0.8	4.3	± 2.6	3.5	± 0.7	3.5	± 0.3	-4.2
Grade 10	--	--	13.7	± 4.0	10.2	± 1.9	9.3	± 2.8	8.1	± 0.9	-5.6
Grade 12	15.5	± 2.1	13.9	± 2.8	14.3	± 5.4	9.2	± 1.6	8.6	± 0.9	-7.0

Boys reported higher levels of hallucinogenic drug use than girls did, across all grades (Figure D8).

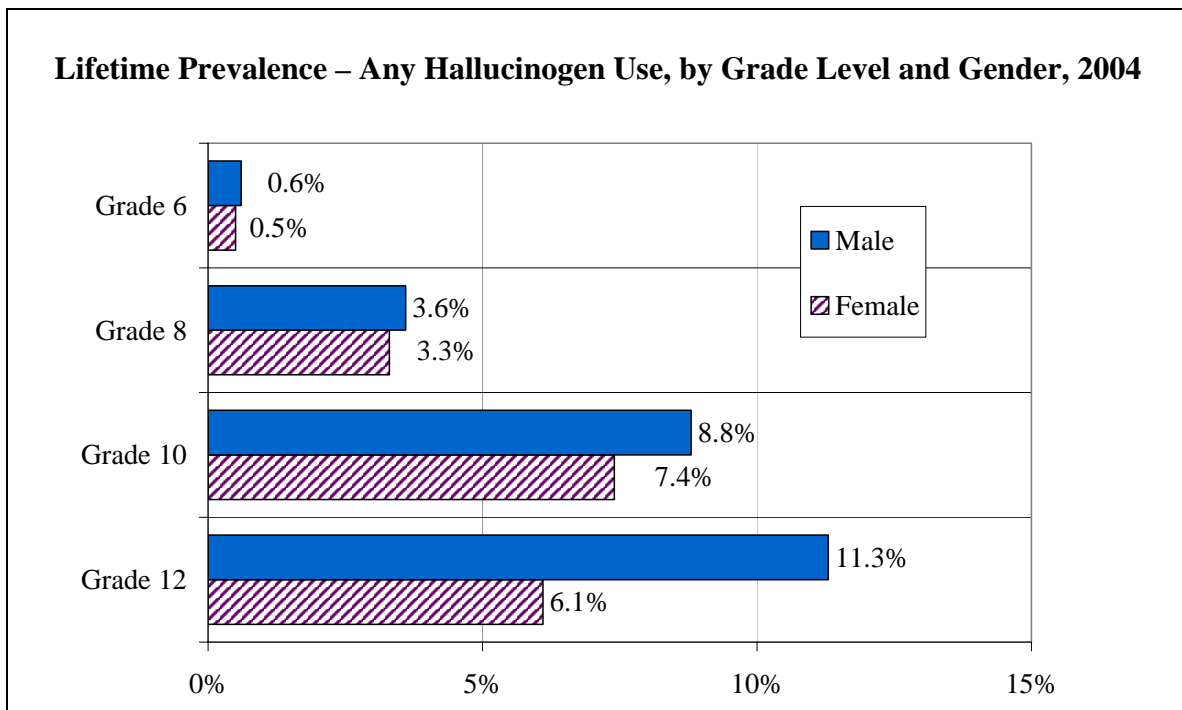


Figure D8

Because the Idaho survey combines a number of hallucinogenic drugs that the *Monitoring the Future* study separates into two separate groups (LSD and hallucinogens), a comparison to the national data is not possible.

Lifetime Prevalence of Inhalants

Students were asked if they had “used inhaled substances to get high (glue, gasoline, paint thinner, spray cans).” Although inhalant consumption affected only between 5.0 and 10.2 percent of students, it was *the most commonly reported drug use among sixth-grade students*. As Table D9 makes clear, the use of inhaled substances reversed the usual trend of increased use with age; instead, inhalants were preferred by younger students.

Compared to 1996, however, the use of inhalants by eighth-grade students has declined. It has also declined among high school seniors, who, when compared to 1996 reported levels, were less likely than eighth-graders to report inhalant use.

Table D9
Lifetime Prevalence of Any Inhalant Use, 1996-2004

Grade	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	5.7	± 1.2	4.1	± 0.7	4.4	± 1.0	3.5	± 1.1	5.0	± 0.7	-0.7
Grade 8	16.0	± 1.1	10.2	± 2.1	9.7	± 2.8	8.2	± 1.4	9.1	± 0.6	-6.9
Grade 10	--	--	10.7	± 2.2	11.6	± 2.6	8.8	± 1.0	10.2	± 1.1	-0.5
Grade 12	10.0	± 1.1	7.1	± 1.3	7.5	± 2.1	6.0	± 0.8	7.2	± 0.4	-2.8

More boys than girls used inhalants in sixth grade. The reverse is true for eighth- and 10th-graders. More boys than girls reported use of inhalants in the 12th grade. (Figure D9).

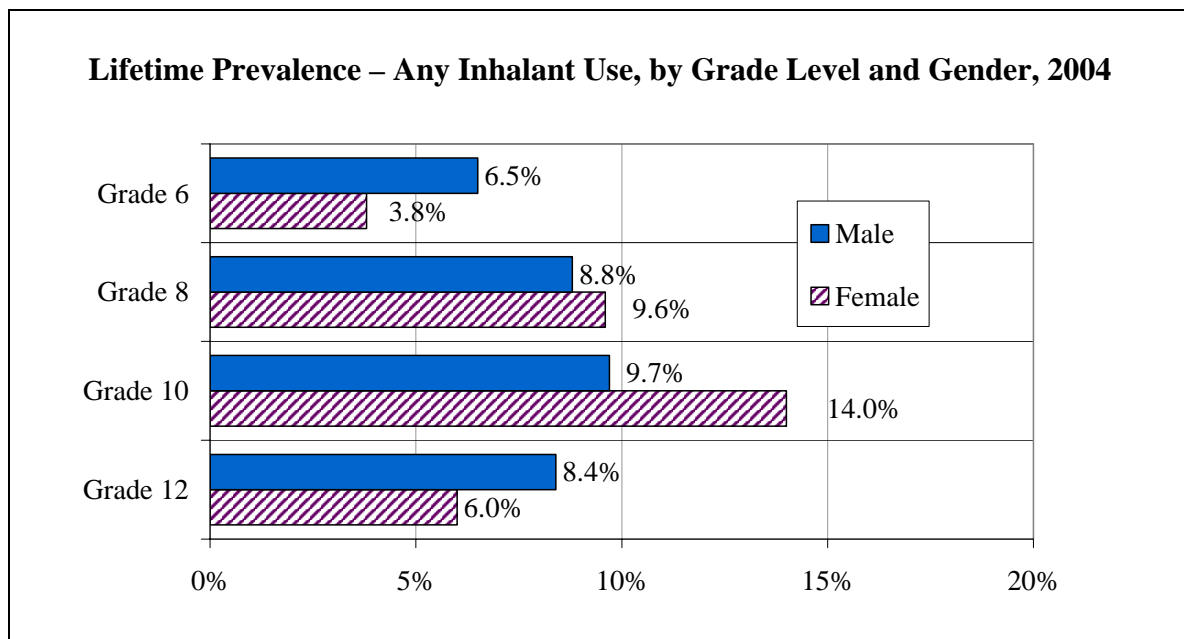


Figure D9

Nationwide, the use of inhalants has also declined in recent years, but lifetime prevalence rates continued to be considerably higher than in Idaho. In national surveys of eighth-, 10th-, and 12th-grade, students reported that 15.2 percent, 13.5 percent, and 11.7 percent of them, respectively, had used inhaled substances (Table D10).

Table D10
Percentage of Students Who Have Ever Used Inhaled Substances,
Idaho and Nationwide, 1996-2004

Grade	1996		1998		2000		2002		2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	
Grade 6	--	5.7	--	4.1	--	4.4	--	3.5	5.0	0.7	-0.7
Grade 8	21.2	16.0	20.5	10.2	17.9	9.7	15.2	8.2	9.1	0.6	-6.9
Grade 10	19.3	--	18.3	10.7	16.6	11.6	13.5	8.8	10.2	1.1	-0.5
Grade 12	16.6	10.0	15.2	7.1	14.2	7.5	11.7	6.0	7.2	0.4	-2.8

Lifetime Prevalence of Tranquilizers

The use of tranquilizing drugs, such as Valium, Librium, and Xanax, remained low and possibly even declined among the younger students surveyed (Table D11). Student-reported use of tranquilizers in all grades has remained stable when compared to 2002. National data (Johnston, et. al., 2004) suggest a slight decrease in the use of tranquilizers among high school students when compared to 2002 (11.4 percent in 2002 versus 10.6 percent in 2004.)

Table D11
Lifetime Prevalence of Any Tranquilizer Use, 1996-2004

Grade	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	0.7	± 0.1	0.4	± 0.3	0.3	± 0.2	0.3	± 0.2	0.4	± 0.1	-0.3
Grade 8	2.8	± 0.6	1.6	± 0.7	1.5	± 0.9	1.6	± 0.6	1.3	± 0.1	-2.5
Grade 10	--	--	3.6	± 1.3	4.8	± 1.0	4.8	± 1.3	4.5	± 0.6	+0.9
Grade 12	4.7	± 0.6	4.1	± 1.2	6.6	± 2.1	5.6	± 1.1	5.4	± 0.5	+0.7

Boys reported higher rates of using tranquilizers than girls in grade six. Boys and girls surveyed reported very similar levels of tranquilizer use across grades six, eight, ten, and twelve (Figure D10).

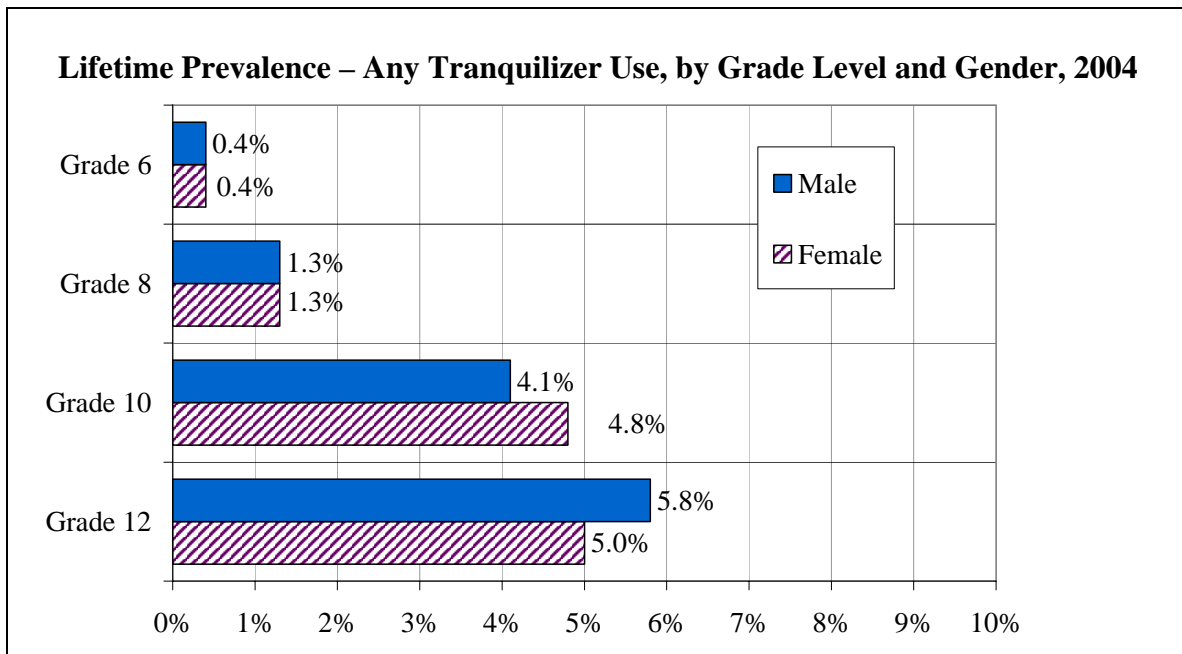


Figure D10

Once again, prevalence rates in Idaho remained below national levels. In the *Monitoring the Future* study, 4.0 percent of eighth-grade students, 7.3 percent of 10th-grade students, and 10.6 percent of 12th-grade students reported some lifetime use of tranquilizers.

Lifetime Prevalence of Methamphetamines

The student survey included crystal, meth, crank, and ice as examples within the category of methamphetamines. When compared to 1996, the reported use of methamphetamines by students in eighth and 12th grades has declined. When compared to 1998, 10th-graders' reported use of methamphetamines has also declined.

Table D12
Lifetime Prevalence of Methamphetamines, 1996-2004

Grade	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	0.7	± 0.2	0.5	± 0.4	0.9	± 0.4	0.5	± 0.2	0.8	± 0.2	+0.1
Grade 8	4.4	± 0.5	2.7	± 0.8	2.9	± 1.4	2.6	± 0.6	2.2	± 0.3	-2.2
Grade 10	--	--	7.8	± 2.2	6.9	± 1.1	5.5	± 1.6	4.6	± 0.7	-3.2
Grade 12	10.4	± 1.7	8.2	± 1.9	8.6	± 3.2	4.8	± 1.1	5.0	± 0.6	-5.4

There was little difference between boys and girls in Idaho in their reported use of methamphetamines (Figure D11).

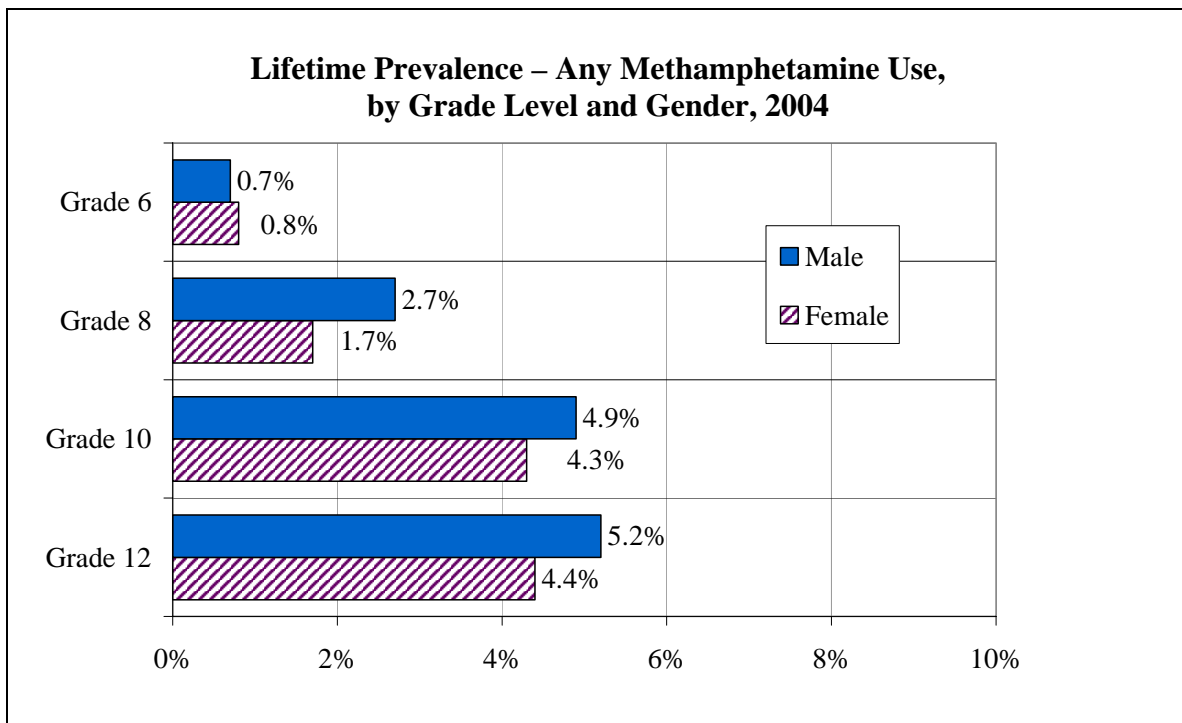


Figure D11

Lifetime Prevalence of Steroids

Table D13 reports on the use of steroids among students in Idaho, which remained similar in 2004 to levels reported in 2002 for grade six. There was a slight decrease in reported use of steroids by eighth-, 10th-, and 12th-grade students when compared to their reported use in 2002. However, there was an increase in lifetime prevalence of steroid use among 12th-graders in 2004, when compared to 1996. Nationwide, 1.9 percent of eighth-graders, 2.4 percent of 10th-graders, and 3.4 percent of 12th-graders reported steroid use in 2004.

Table D13
Lifetime Prevalence of Any Steroid Use, 1996-2004

Grade	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	1.2	± 0.3	0.8	± 0.3	1.0	± 0.3	1.0	± 0.4	1.2	± 0.2	--
Grade 8	1.8	± 0.4	1.7	± 0.4	1.3	± 0.3	2.3	± 0.5	1.8	± 0.3	--
Grade 10	--	--	3.0	± 0.5	4.1	± 1.4	3.7	± 0.7	2.7	± 0.2	-0.3
Grade 12	1.6	± 0.3	2.8	± 0.6	3.4	± 0.5	3.3	± 0.7	2.7	± 0.4	+0.9

Figure D12 reveals the important differences between boys and girls in the use of steroids. Boys across all grades were substantially more likely to report that they had used steroids than girls were.

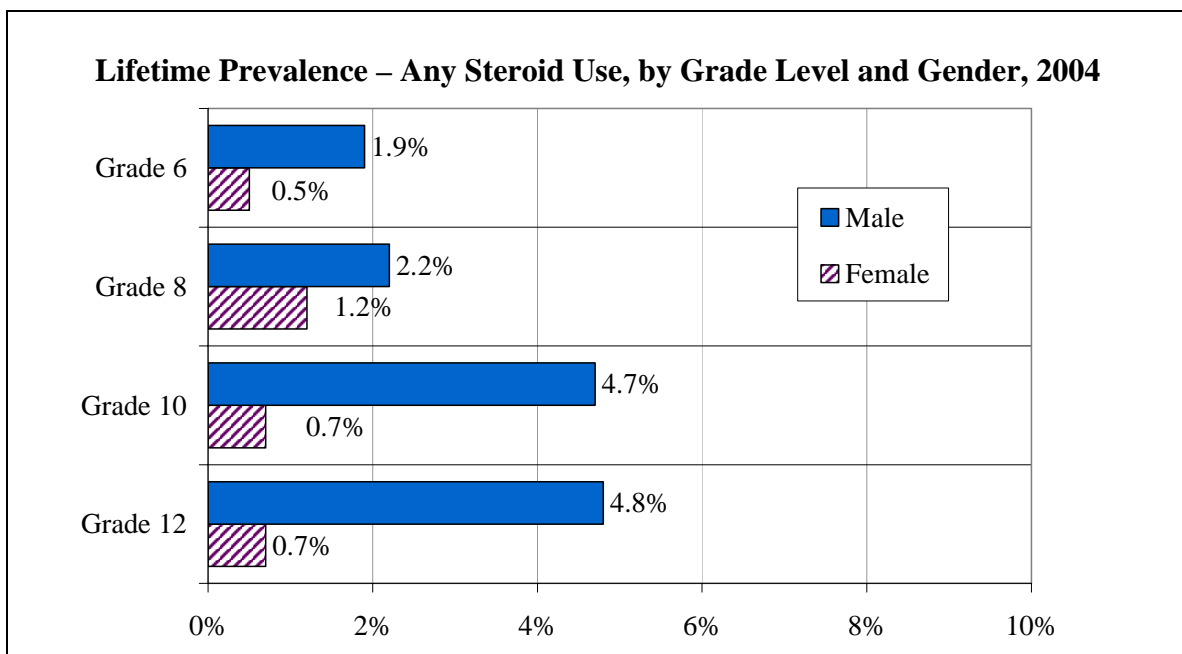


Figure D12

Students who played school sports were also somewhat more likely than those who did not participate in school sports to report the use of steroids.

Lifetime Prevalence of Ecstasy

Table D14 reports on the use of ecstasy among students in Idaho. This is the second year that this drug has been tracked by the survey. Once again, prevalence rates in Idaho remained below national levels. Nationwide, 2.8 percent of eighth-graders, 4.3 percent of 10th-graders, and 7.5 percent of 12th-graders reported ecstasy use in 2002.

Table D14
Lifetime Prevalence of Ecstasy Use, 2004

Grade	Idaho 2002		National	Idaho 2004		National
	Percent	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent	Margin of Error	Percent
Grade 6	0.3	± 0.2	--	0.2	± 0.1	--
Grade 8	3.0	± 0.5	4.3	1.7	± 0.2	2.8
Grade 10	5.9	± 2.1	6.6	3.7	± 0.5	4.3
Grade 12	4.7	± 1.0	10.5	3.6	± 0.3	7.5

From eighth grade on, boys reported a higher rate of using ecstasy than girls did. Statistically significant differences were found in the levels of use of ecstasy in grade 12. (Figure D13).

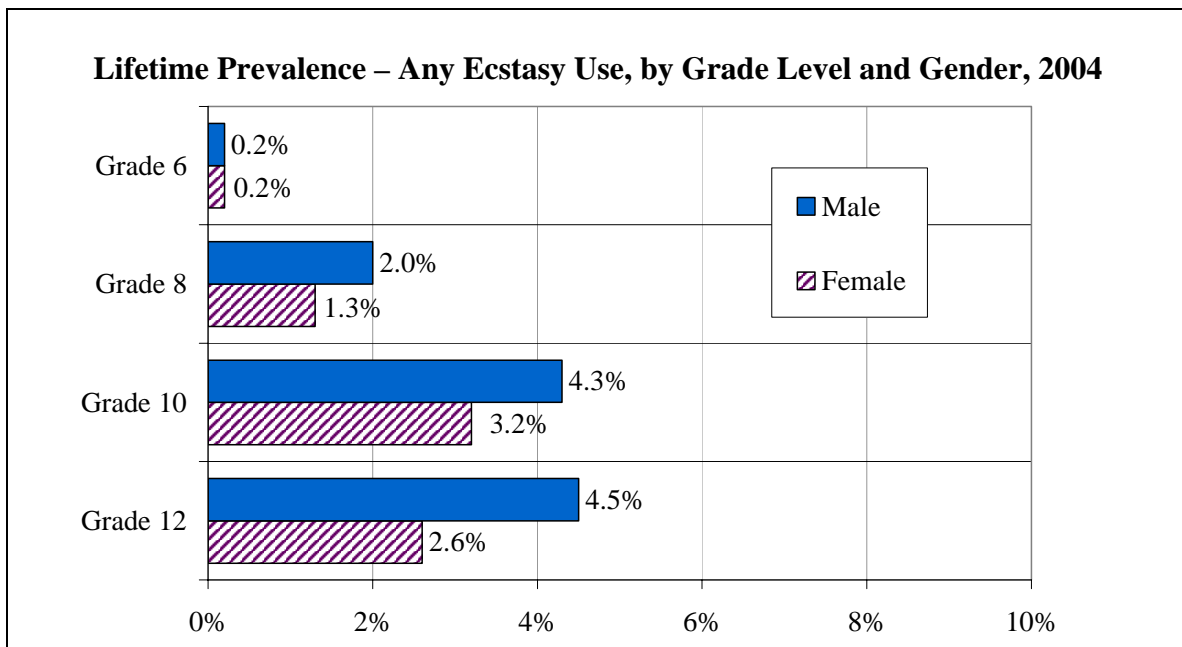


Figure D13

Levels of Current Drug Use

Student overall drug use was calculated using four categories:

No Use. Student reported never having tried marijuana, depressants, tranquilizers, inhalants, methamphetamines, ecstasy, cocaine, opiates, or hallucinogens.

Low Use. Student reported having tried at least one of the following drugs and possibly used one of them as frequently as monthly: marijuana, depressants, tranquilizers, inhalants, methamphetamines, ecstasy. Student reported never having tried cocaine, opiates, or hallucinogens.

Moderate Use. Student reported weekly use of marijuana, depressants, tranquilizers, inhalants, methamphetamines, or ecstasy, and/or reported having tried cocaine, opiates, or hallucinogens.

High Use. Student reported daily use of marijuana, depressants, tranquilizers, inhalants, methamphetamines, or ecstasy, or reported weekly use of more than one of these substances, or reported monthly or more frequent use of cocaine, opiates, or hallucinogens.

Table D15 presents findings on overall levels of student drug use as reported on the surveys of 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, and 2004. The level of “No Use” remains stable for grades six, ten, and twelve when compared to 1996. The level of “No Use” by eighth-grade students reflects a significant increase when compared to reported levels in 1996 and when taking margins of error into account. By the same token, the other categories of drug use—”low use,” “moderate use,” and “high use”—reported by eighth-grade students declined significantly compared to 1996.

Table D15
Levels of Drug Use, Idaho, by Grade Level, 1996-2004

Grade	Alcohol Use Category	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
		%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	No Use	92.4	± 0.9	94.4	± 0.8	94.3	± 1.3	93.0	± 1.2	90.6	± 1.1	-1.8
	Low Use	5.7	± 0.9	4.4	± 0.8	4.3	± 1.4	5.5	± 1.1	7.7	± 1.0	+2.0
	Moderate Use	1.5	± 0.3	0.8	± 0.3	0.7	± 0.6	1.0	± 0.4	0.8	± 0.1	-0.7
	High Use	0.4	± 0.2	0.4	± 0.3	0.7	± 0.6	0.4	± 0.1	0.9	± 0.2	+0.5
Grade 8	No Use	74.5	± 1.9	82.0	± 2.4	82.7	± 5.1	81.5	± 2.7	81.4	± 1.3	+6.9
	Low Use	15.4	± 1.4	10.7	± 1.6	10.9	± 2.5	11.6	± 1.9	11.8	± 0.7	-3.6
	Moderate Use	5.8	± 1.1	4.0	± 1.0	3.5	± 1.8	3.8	± 0.8	4.0	± 0.4	-1.8
	High Use	4.3	± 1.0	3.2	± 0.8	2.8	± 1.3	3.1	± 0.8	2.8	± 0.4	-1.5
Grade 10	No Use	--	--	63.3	± 5.33	71.9	± 3.3	65.1	± 4.5	67.3	± 2.6	+4.0
	Low Use	--	--	18.0	± 2.6	13.2	± 1.4	17.9	± 1.7	18.4	± 1.2	+0.4
	Moderate Use	--	--	10.9	± 1.8	7.4	± 1.5	8.3	± 1.6	7.4	± 0.8	-3.5
	High Use	--	--	7.9	± 2.9	7.4	± 2.0	8.7	± 2.9	7.0	± 0.8	-0.9
Grade 12	No Use	62.4	± 3.3	63.8	± 4.5	64.7	± 7.1	62.8	± 3.3	64.6	± 2.2	+2.2
	Low Use	17.7	± 1.9	16.7	± 3.0	16.8	± 2.4	19.7	± 2.2	18.5	± 1.1	+0.8
	Moderate Use	10.9	± 1.3	11.6	± 1.8	10.9	± 3.0	8.9	± 1.3	8.8	± 0.8	-2.1
	High Use	9.0	± 1.3	7.9	± 1.8	7.6	± 2.9	8.6	± 1.4	8.1	± 0.6	-0.9

Boys in 12th grade reported higher levels of drug use than girls reported. Boys and girls reported very similar levels of drug use across grades six, eight, and ten (Table D16).

Table D16
Levels of Drug Use, Idaho, by Gender and Grade, 2004

		Male	Female
Grade 6	No Use	88.8%	92.3%
	Low Use	9.1%	6.4%
	Moderate Use	1.1%	0.6%
	High Use	1.0%	0.7%
Grade 8	No Use	81.2%	81.8%
	Low Use	4.6%	12.3%
	Moderate Use	3.9%	3.8%
	High Use	2.3%	2.1%
Grade 10	No Use	66.5%	68.3%
	Low Use	17.3%	19.3%
	Moderate Use	7.4%	7.2%
	High Use	8.8%	5.2%
Grade 12	No Use	60.6%	68.8%
	Low Use	18.9%	17.8%
	Moderate Use	9.5%	8.1%
	High Use	11.0%	5.3%

What the table does not reveal are the significant differences in drug use by region. Twelfth-grade students in Region I, for example, were much more likely to have tried drugs and had many more students reporting high use of drugs. This is primarily due to much higher levels of use of marijuana in Region I than in other parts of the state.

Earlier it was noted that students in Region I were more likely than other students to report having tried marijuana (Figure D3). As Figure D14 illustrates, students in Region I were also more likely than other students were to report *daily use* of the drug.

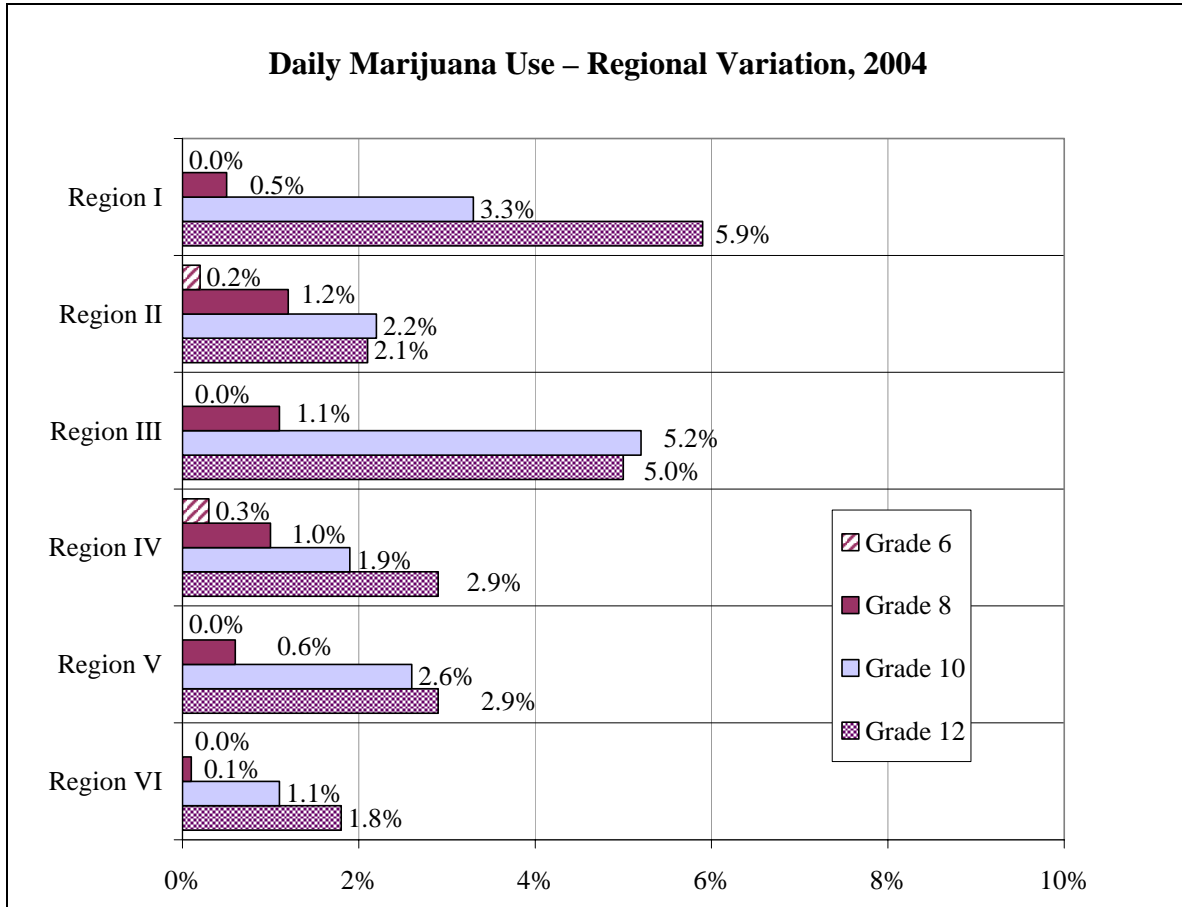


Figure D14

Student Drug Use in the Previous 30 Days

The 2004 survey also asked students about their recent (previous 30 days) use of certain substances. Figure D15 presents the results for marijuana, the most commonly used drug among students. About 16.8 percent of 12th-graders and 13.6 percent of 10th-graders reported using marijuana at least once in the previous 30 days. Smaller numbers of younger students—6.2 percent of eighth-graders and 1.2 percent of sixth-graders—also reported recent use of marijuana.

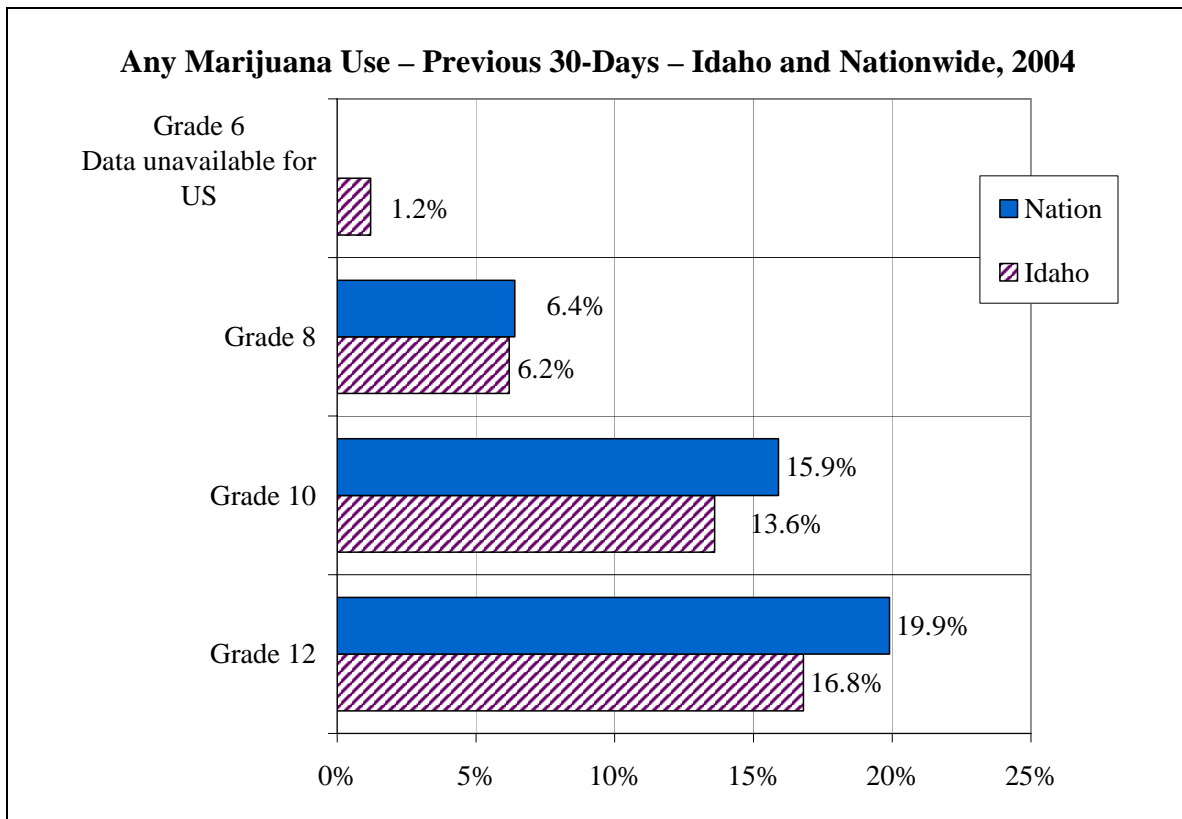


Figure D15

This same figure includes national data on eighth-, 10th-, and 12th-grade students from the *Monitoring the Future* study. This data demonstrates that recent marijuana use by Idaho students remained below the national averages for grades ten and twelve. The rate of any marijuana use by Idaho eighth-grade students and the national study eighth-graders is similar.

Other recent drug use—specifically of cocaine, methamphetamines, and ecstasy—is summarized in Figure D16. About 2.1 percent of 10th and 12th grade students reported recent use of cocaine. Idaho 10th-graders reported the highest recent use of methamphetamine and ecstasy across the grades (2.5 and 2.0 percent, respectively). Reported recent use of these drugs by 12th-graders was lower (2.2 and 1.6 percent, respectively).

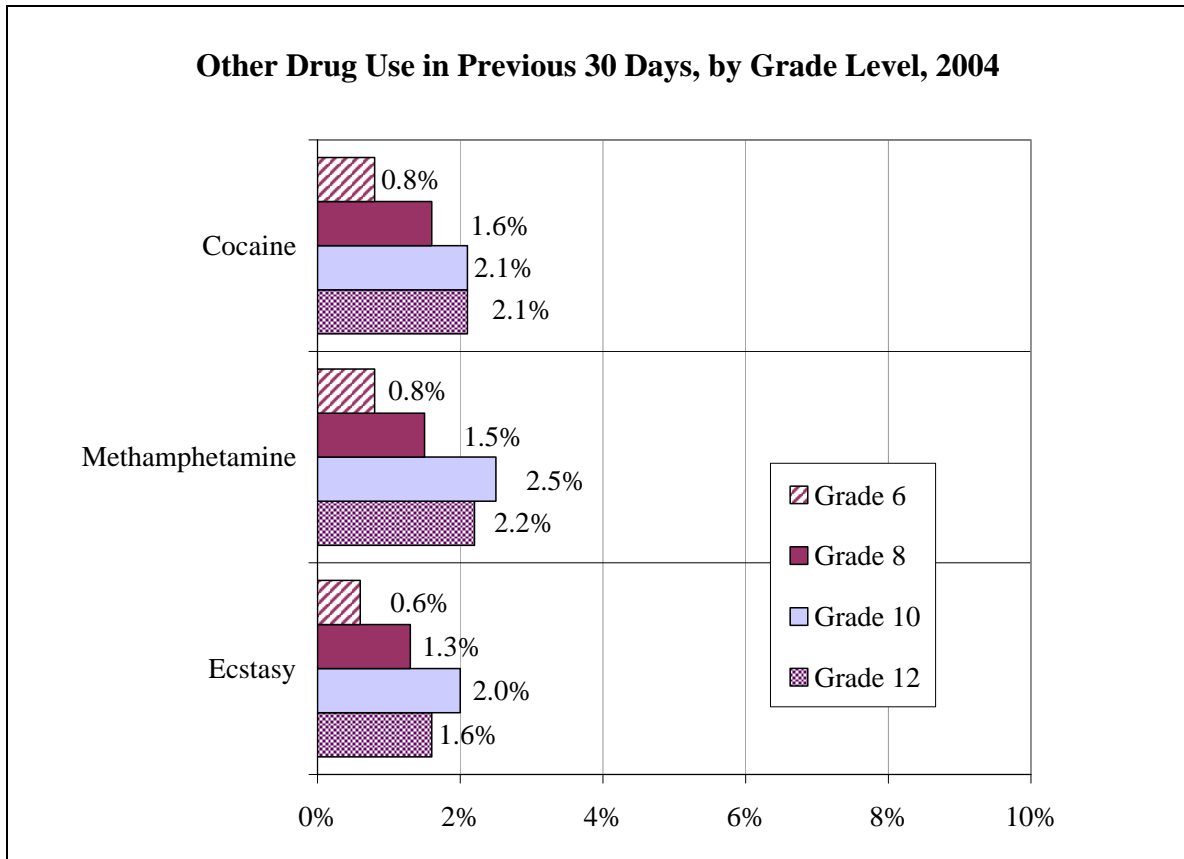


Figure D16

Perceived Availability of Drugs

Students were asked how difficult they believed it would be for them to obtain marijuana, cocaine, and methamphetamines. Overall, most students felt it would be easy for them to obtain marijuana, and about one-third of them felt they could easily obtain cocaine or methamphetamines.

Figure D17 compares the student perceptions of the availability of marijuana on the Idaho 2004 survey to the findings from the national *Monitoring the Future* survey. The percentages in the chart represent the proportion of students responding that it would be “fairly easy” or “very easy” for them to obtain marijuana. While the percentages for Idaho students were smaller than for their peers elsewhere in the country, about seven out of 10 Idaho seniors (71.9 percent) maintained that it would be “fairly easy” or “very easy” for them to get marijuana. This is a large increase over the 27.4 percent of eighth-graders who believed it would be easy to obtain marijuana.

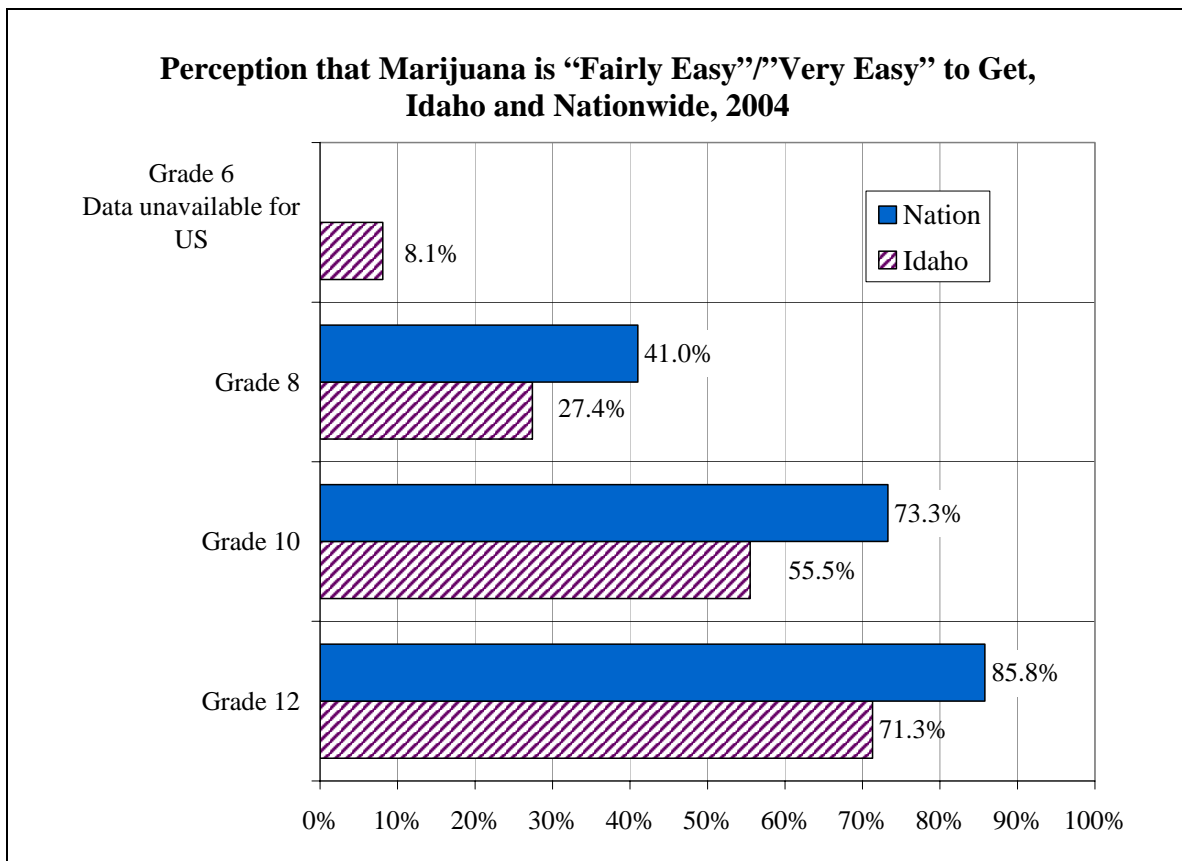


Figure D17

Similar information for cocaine availability can be found in Figure D18. About 27.9 percent of Idaho seniors stated that it would be easy for them to get cocaine. Once again, students in Idaho were less likely than students in the national study (47.8%) to believe that it would be “fairly easy” or “very easy” to obtain cocaine.

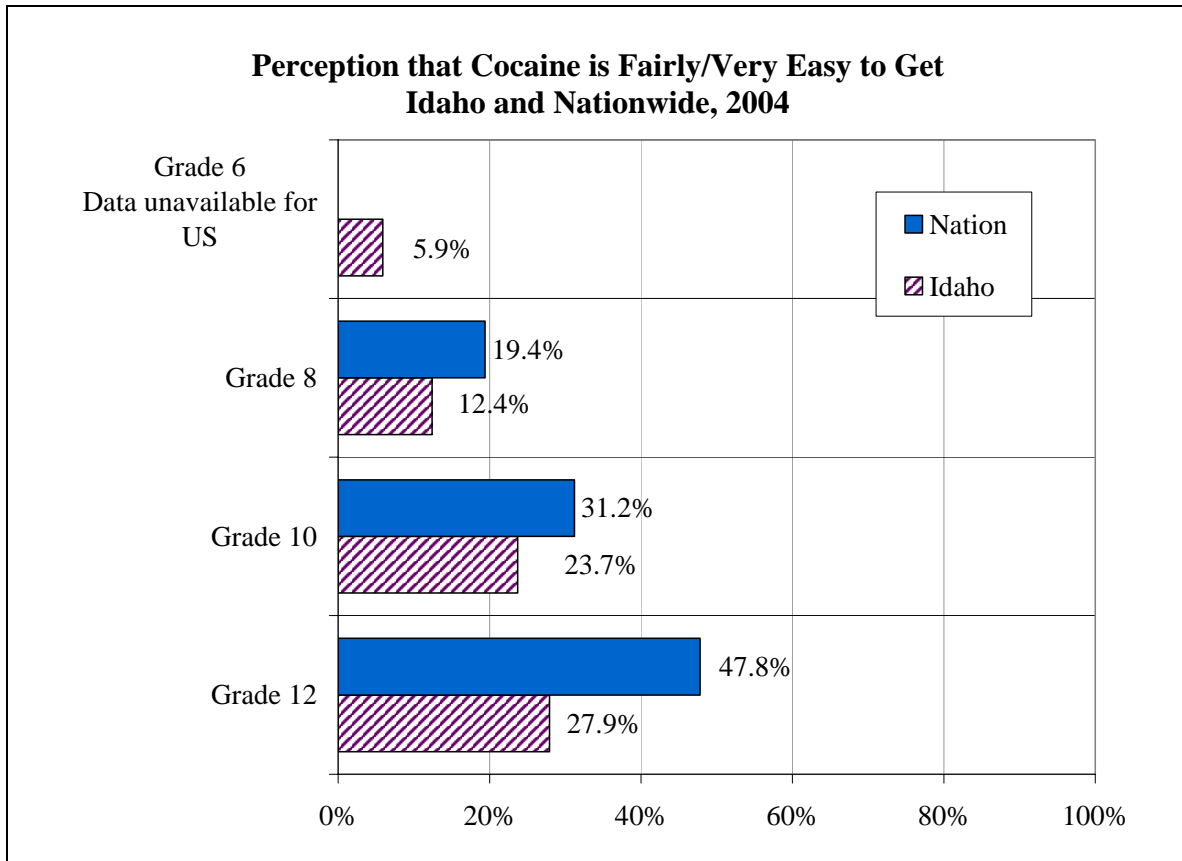


Figure D18

Figure D19 summarizes the responses about the availability of methamphetamines. The same overall pattern—of lower perceived drug availability in Idaho than nationwide—held, but the gap between Idaho students and their peers elsewhere in the country was larger. While 55.4 percent of high school seniors nationally believed they could easily obtain methamphetamines, only 30.3 percent of Idaho seniors held this belief.

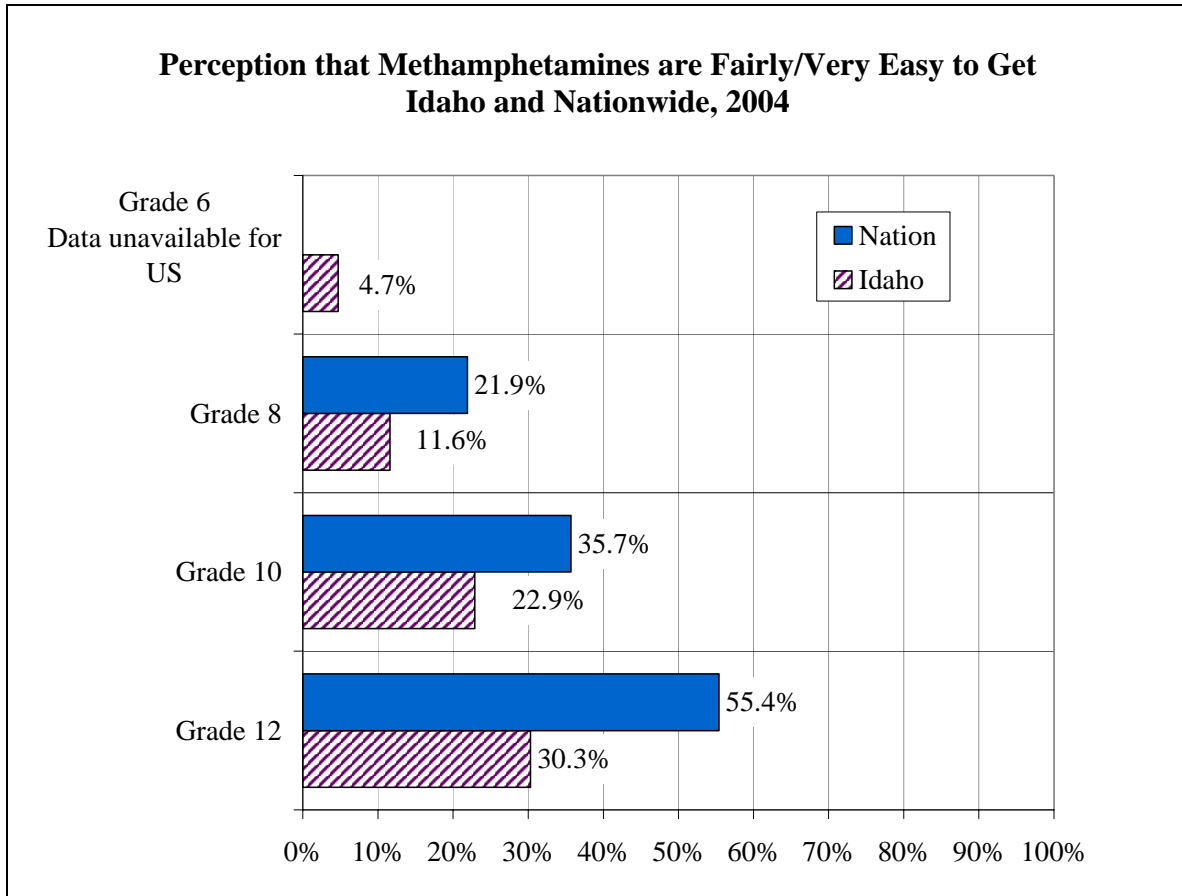


Figure D19

Perceived Risk of Harm from Drug Use

Students also responded to questions about their perceptions of the potential harm from drug use, specifically from smoking marijuana or from trying heroin or cocaine once or twice.

Figure D20 illustrates student responses on the 2004 survey to the question, “How much do you think people risk harming themselves if they smoke marijuana?” Students in the eighth grade were most likely to judge that there was “moderate risk” or “great risk” from marijuana, and the perception of risk declined among the older students. Nevertheless, at all grades more than two-thirds of students felt there was “moderate risk” or “great risk” of harm involved in marijuana use.

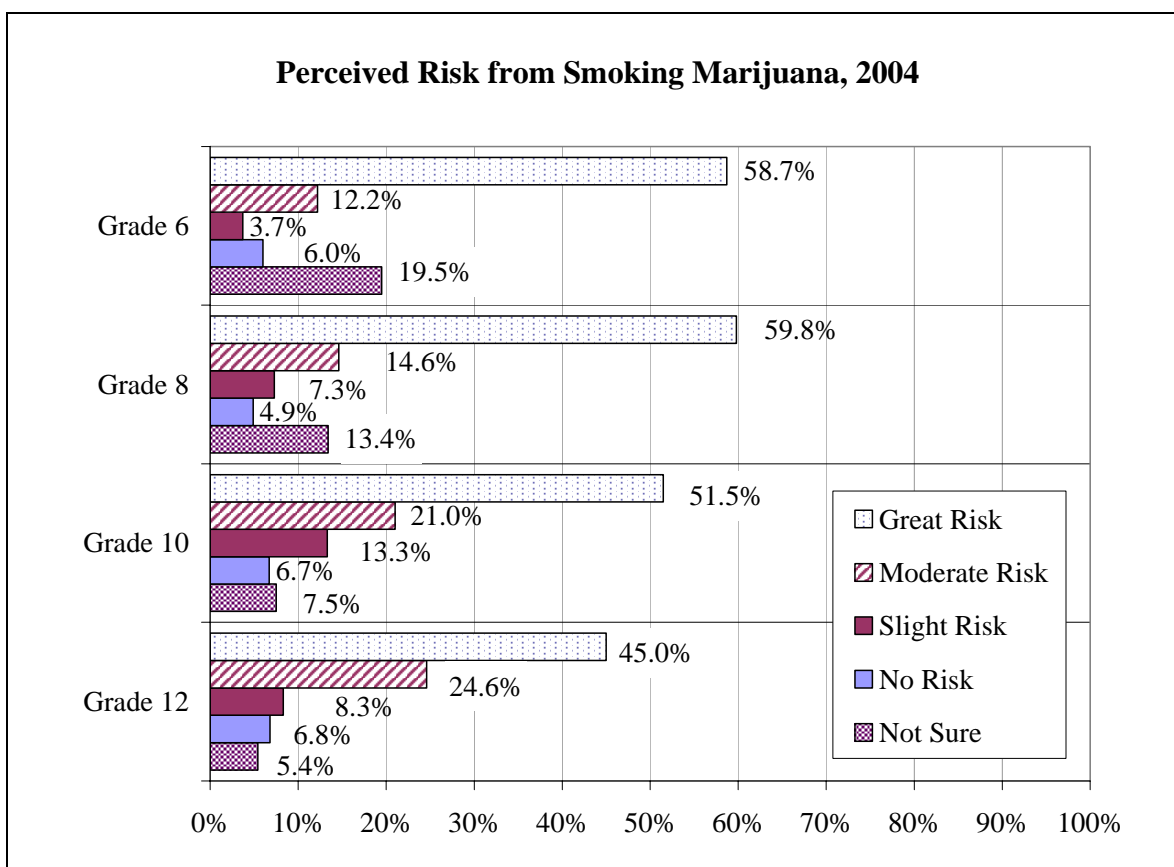


Figure D20

Student responses to this question could not be easily compared to national data from the *Monitoring the Future* study because of wording differences. On the national survey, high school seniors answered separate questions about the harm inherent in smoking marijuana *occasionally* (25.4 percent saw “great risk”) compared to smoking marijuana *daily* (54.6 percent saw “great risk”). Among Idaho seniors, 45.0 percent answered the question, with no mention of frequency, saying that there was “great risk” involved in marijuana use.

In general, students perceived the use of heroin as riskier than smoking marijuana, and the perception of risk tended to increase as students became older (Figure D21). Data from the national study was less straightforward, with 12th-grade students nationally less likely to perceive heroin experimentation as a “great risk” (61.2 percent) compared to Idaho seniors (65.7 percent). However, younger students nationally (61.6 percent of eighth-graders and 72 percent of 10th-graders), were more likely than eighth- and 10th-grade students in Idaho (47.0% and 56.1%, respectively) to perceive a “great risk” in using heroin once or twice.

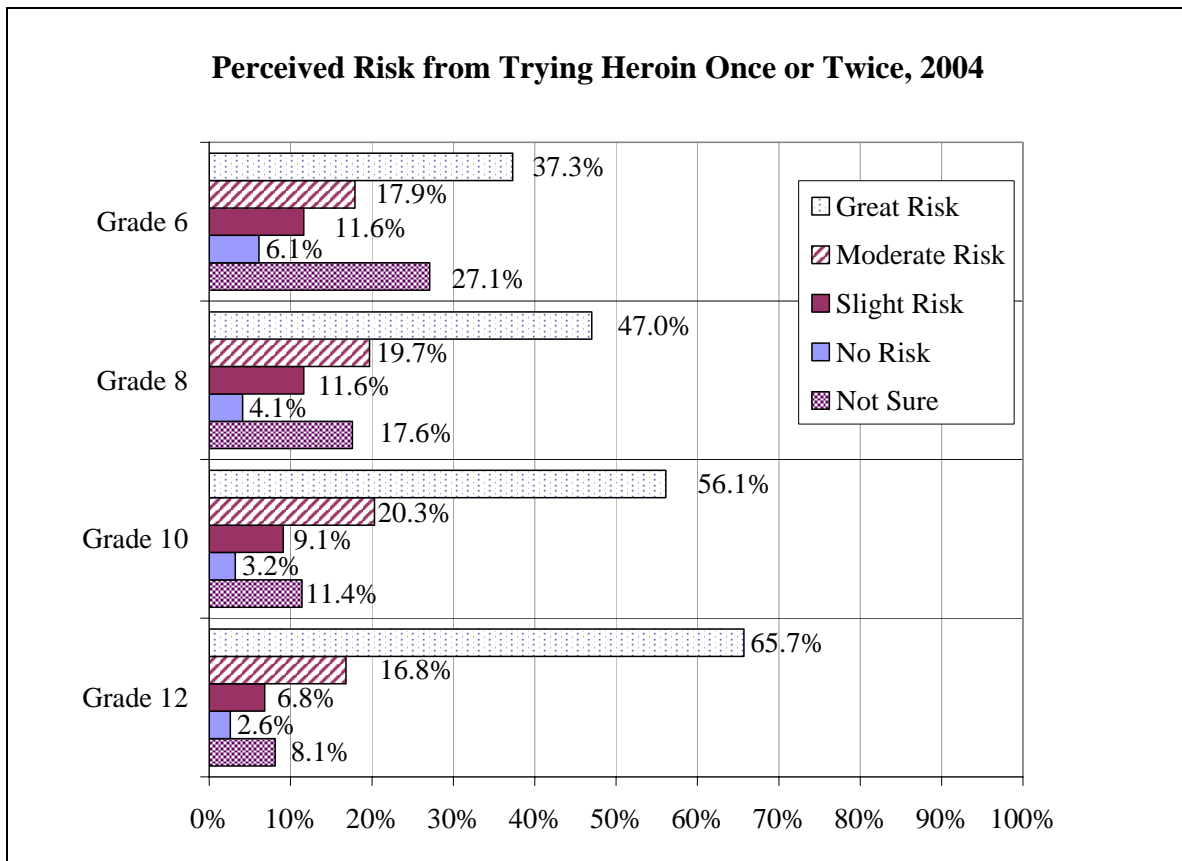


Figure D21

Compared to heroin, students were a little less likely to see cocaine as a “great risk” but, in general, they reported that cocaine experimentation was risky (Figure D22). Once again, the perception of risk appeared to increase as students became older. In the case of cocaine, Idaho students were *more likely* than students in the national survey to perceive using cocaine once or twice as a “great risk.” In the national survey, the rates of perceived use of cocaine once or twice as a “great risk” for eighth-, 10th-, and 12th-grade students, 44.4 percent, 50.7 percent, and 50.7 percent, respectively.

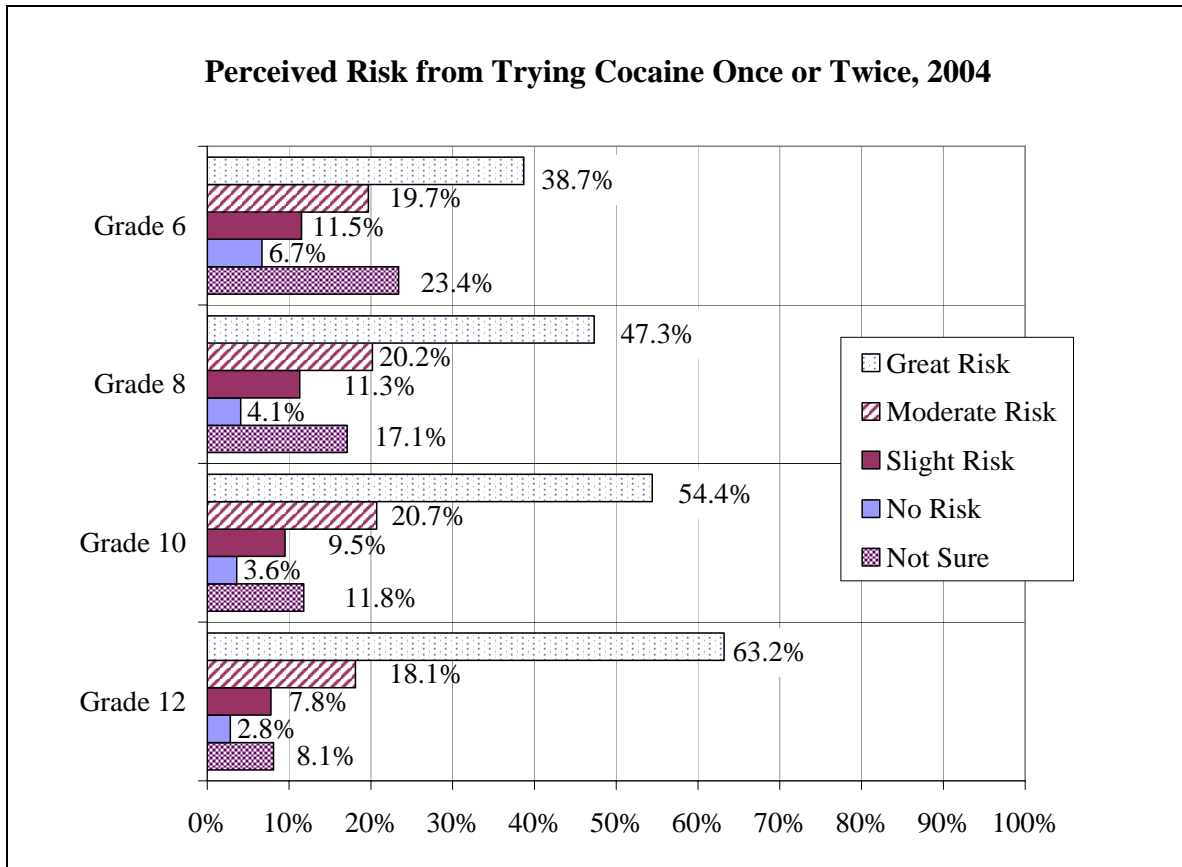


Figure D22

Level of Parental Supervision

As in 2002, there was again a strong relationship between the level of parental supervision and the level of student drug use. On the survey, students were asked, “When you are away from home, do your parents know where you are and who you are with?” The response categories “every time” and “most times” were combined as “high supervision,” while the responses of “sometimes,” “rarely,” or “never” were combined as “low supervision.” Students who reported low supervision by their parents were much more likely to report low, moderate, and high levels of drug use, compared to students who were highly supervised.

Figure D23 illustrates this trend using the specific example of 12th-grade students. Among students who reported low supervision, 45.1 percent reported no drug use, 23.1 percent reported low use, 15.0 percent reported moderate use, and 16.8 percent reported high use of drugs. These figures looked very different for highly supervised students, 70.2 percent of whom reported no drug use. Among the highly supervised students, 17.3 percent reported low drug use, 7.4 percent moderate drug use, and 5.1 percent high drug use.

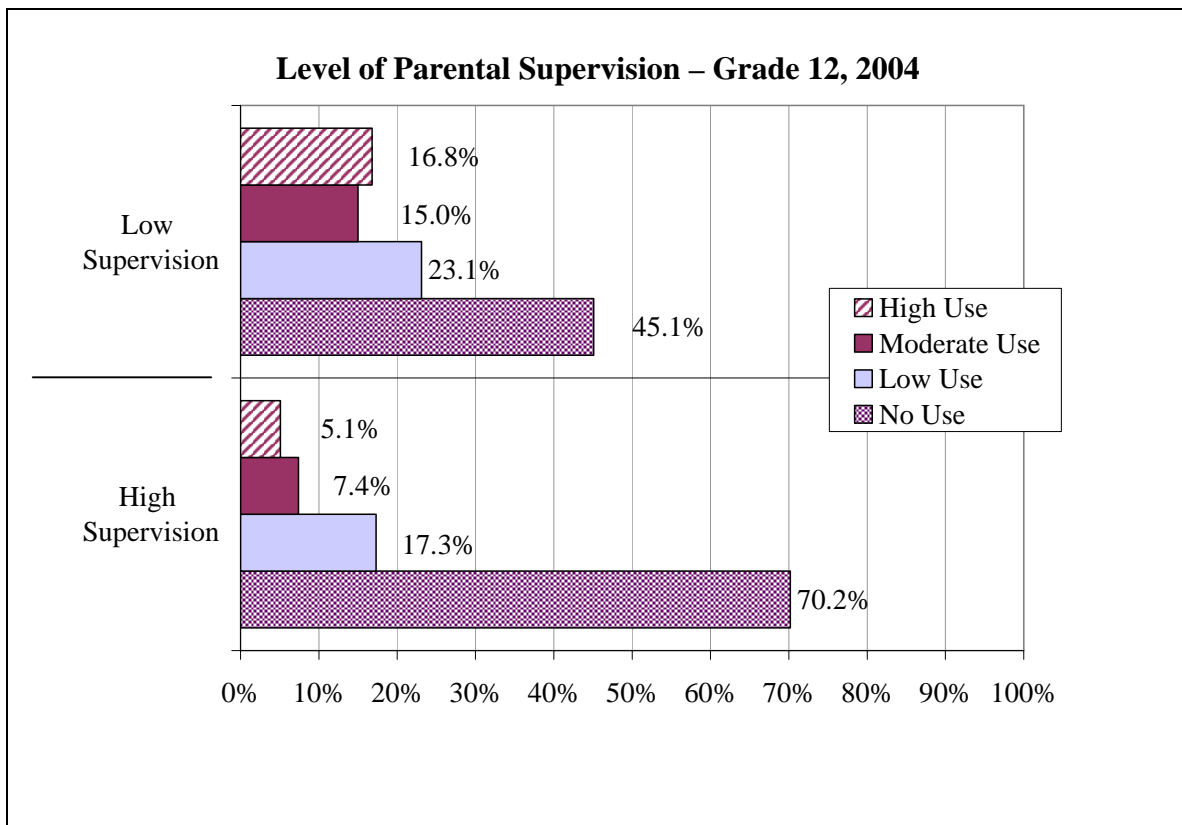


Figure D23

Although fewer of the younger students use drugs, the same overall pattern of more drug use by students with less parental supervision holds across the different grades.

DRUG EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

Many drug prevention efforts aim to reduce the number of young children who experiment with alcohol or drugs. This focus came about because of a report issued by the U.S. Department of Education (*What Works: Schools Without Drugs*) in 1989. This report argued that delaying the onset of alcohol and substance use offered the greatest chance of reducing or eliminating use and abuse in the long term. Other research (Werner 1991; Hawkins 1989) similarly showed that individuals initiating drug use before the age of 15 were more than twice as likely to have drug problems as individuals who did not initiate use until after the age of 19.

Several questions on the 2004 survey addressed student attitudes toward the drug education they had received, what they felt they had learned about the dangers of drugs and drinking, and whether their schools provided counseling and support groups for students with alcohol or drug problems.

Student Attitudes Toward Alcohol and Drug Education

The survey asked students where they had learned the most about the dangers of alcohol and drugs. Overall, more than *one-half of all students reported that school had been their primary source of information about the dangers of drugs and drinking* (55.6%). About one-quarter of all students (slightly more for sixth-graders) said their families had taught them the most (26.6%). About 8.3 percent of students said the media (TV, movies, and newspapers) had provided most of the information they had, and 6.5 percent said they received most of their information from other children. Only between 2 and 4 percent of students (depending upon grade level) said that church or temple provided most of their information about the dangers of drugs and drinking.

Students indicated that they believed alcohol and drug education should begin in elementary school (61.2%). About 24.7 percent of 12th-grade students felt that it should begin by third grade or earlier, while another 29.0 percent felt that fourth or fifth grade was an appropriate time. Girls (62.9%) were more likely than boys (59.6%) to say that alcohol and drug education should begin early in elementary school.

Knowledge Gained from Alcohol and Drug Education

The survey also asked students to report on what they had learned in classes at school about a variety of topics. The following four figures display the percentages of students in different grades who said they “learned some” or “learned a lot” on several topics, including types of drugs and what drugs do to people (Figure DE1),

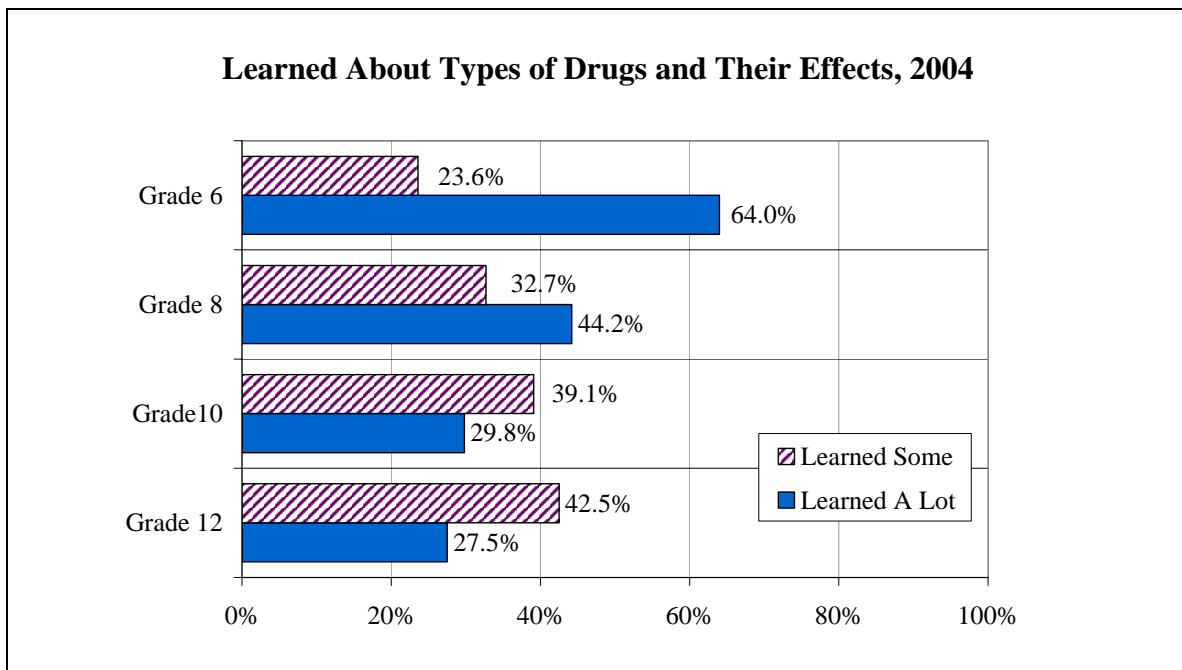


Figure DE1

how to say “no” to alcohol and drugs (Figure DE2),

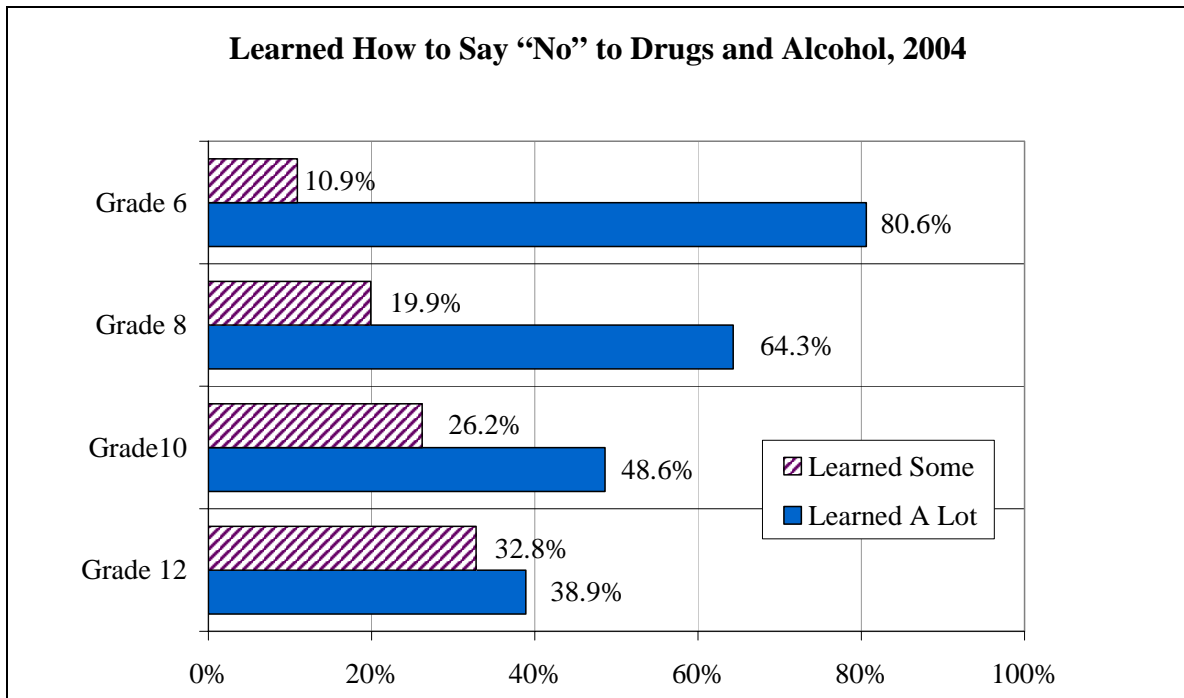


Figure DE2

how to make good decisions in life (Figure DE3),

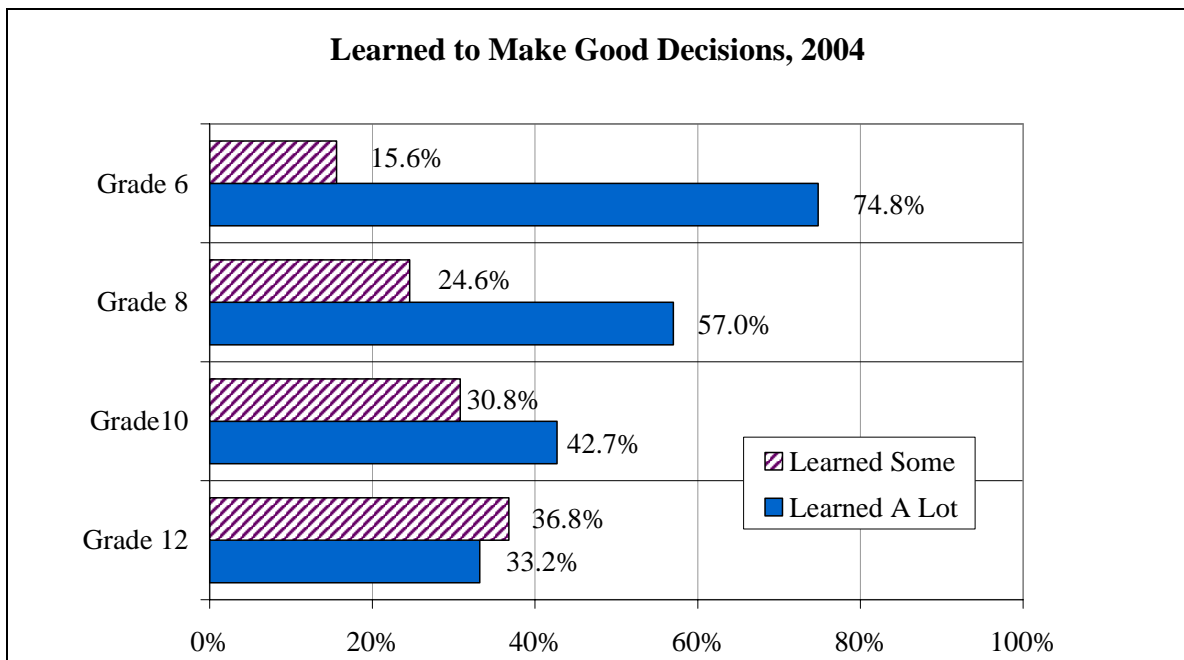


Figure DE3

and healthy things to do rather than take drugs or drink alcohol (Figure DE4).

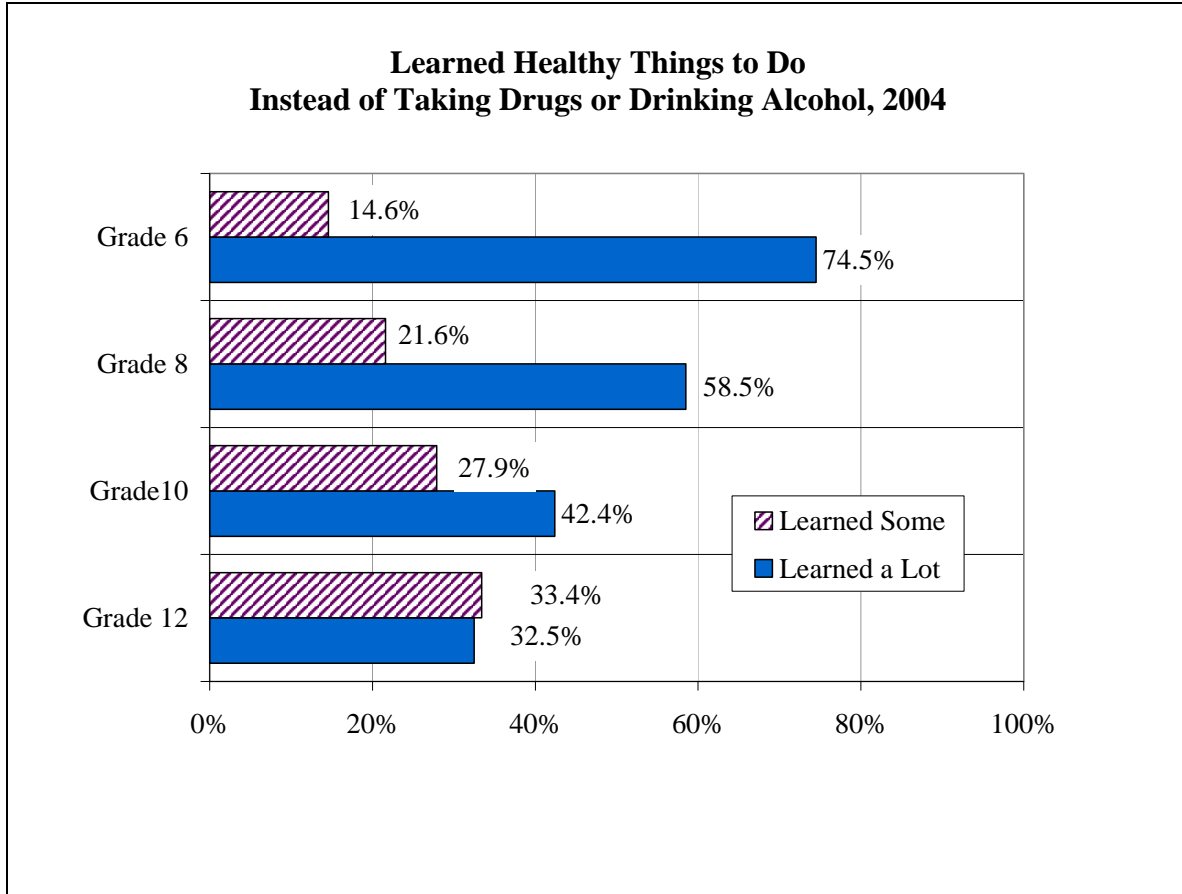


Figure DE4

Students tended to answer the four questions similarly. Overall, between two-thirds and three-quarters of all students reported that they had learned “some” or “a lot” about types of drugs, how to say “no,” how to make good decisions, and healthy alternatives to drug and alcohol use. Younger students reported that they had learned more, with a gradual decline in the percentage of students in the higher grades reporting that they had learned “some” or “a lot.”

Boys were slightly, but consistently, more likely than girls to say they did not remember what they had learned, while girls were more likely to say that they learned “a lot.” Even among the youngest students, who were most likely to say that they had learned “a lot,” this difference between boys and girls persisted.